

# The Jerusalem Star

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## Alia Airport set for takeoff

By Lella G. Deeb

Star Staff Writer

Amman, the Royal Jordanian Airline, will start using its maintenance facilities at the new Queen Alia International Airport on 15 February, Transport Minister Ali Suheimat told the Star this week.

In an exclusive interview, Mr. Suheimat said that trial flights, probably to Aqaba, will begin at the same time. These flights will be used to test the ability of staff man the airport, operate its facilities and sophisticated equipment.

The minister estimated the "soft" [reduced-scale] operation of the airport would start four or five weeks later, as soon as employees knew their way about the place. This soft opening was supposed to have occurred last October, but was delayed because there was not enough trained staff available to run the new airport at the same time as the old one.

### Transfer beginning

Mr. Suheimat said that the take-over and operation of the airport facilities, at Jiza 30 kilometres south of Amman, started actually at the beginning of January. Airport users are now beginning to transfer to the new site. The time before the soft opening will be used to coordinate the different agencies at the airport co-ordinated, to get the staff completely used running the equipment and the immigration, customs and Civil Defence personnel acquainted with the place.

"We hope that this process will be as short as possible, so that full operation can start soon," said the minister. "I cannot fix a date because this depends on the people and how they can manage in each other."

The scale of work and quality of equipment at Queen Alia Airport is completely different and cannot be compared to the existing airport, continued Mr. Suheimat. He expects people to take some time, not only to acquaint themselves with all that, but to master the use of these facilities.

One hitch in the startup process could be caused by the method of transferring passengers in the city to the airport. The airport access road is not yet finished. But by the time the airport

opens, it will be possible to use it without interrupting the flow of traffic.

This is going to be a limited access road with very few exits and entries. It will have terminal in Amman at the Seventh and Eighth Circles.

A regular transport system has not yet been set up. The idea for the present is to define points where people can board public transport buses. Initially, passengers for the trial flights may gather at the Amn Hotel, on the Sixth Circle, and from there be driven to the airport.

The final solution, said the minister, will only come in three or four years' time, when a city terminal is constructed. Studies are being made for such a terminal, which originally was going to be located near the Wadi Saqra Circle. Amman Municipality objected to that location, and a new site has been chosen on the highway to the airport.

### Automated cargo operation

One of the most important uses of the new airport will be in cargo, continued Mr. Suheimat. Ultimately, the airport is expected to handle 430,000 tons annually, which will be loaded, unloaded, stacked and stored mechanically, and will be monitored through a closed circuit computerized television network. The operations room for this process contains all automated equipment and will be staffed by very few people.

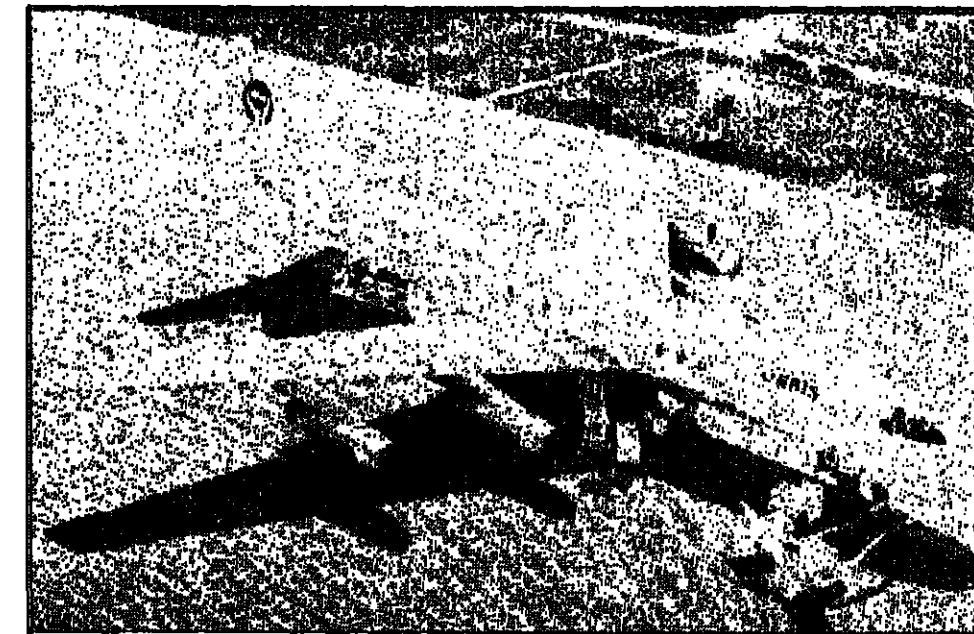
The airport's control tower is highly sophisticated, as is the electronic telephone exchange. Equipment has been installed to allow instrument landings. Some of the guidance equipment is located about 14 kilometres outside the airport. All this equipment has been tested and commissioned in accordance with international regulations. After testing, a notice of 10 weeks had to be given to all international airline organizations, informing them of the successful test. At the end of a "let-down" procedure, the relevant international civil aviation organization media will announce these results.

### Cost stays low

Work on the airport started in 1975, but was stopped in 1976, when new studies were made and completed in 1977. As of that year work began on each part of the project on which studies were completed.

The cost of the airport, which sits on 28,000 dunums of land, is estimated at JD 84 million including all equipment, furnishing and even art-

Page 3: Queen Noor speaks with The Star on Jordan's heritage  
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Project Orbis' specially-equipped DC-8 aircraft

## Flying eye hospital due here

By Ahmad Shaker and Lella G. Deeb

AMMAN — The flying hospital of Project Orbis is due to land in Amman on Thursday, 30 January, giving a special chance to both eye patients and students of medicine in Jordan.

The teaching eye hospital, housed in a DC-8 jet, will stay at Amman Airport for two weeks. In what Staff Ophthalmologist Jim Martone calls "an experiment in continuing medical education," three doctors and four nurses will perform 50 eye operations while here.

Only patients with special and very difficult problems will be selected. The operations will be recorded on videotape so that Jordanian doctors can learn about modern techniques in eye surgery.

Project Orbis is a private American not-for-profit organization, financed by private contributions, the US government and other sources. The teaching hospital will arrive here from Abu Dhabi. Its visit is in co-ordination with the University of Jordan, the King Hussein Medical Centre and Al-Bashir Hospital.

work. This is less than originally estimated. "For an airport of this size and sophistication, Jordan should be proud of completing it at such low cost," said Mr. Suheimat.

The present staff of Amman Airport will be strengthened by new Jordanian staff to run the new airport. The new staff members have worked on the construction and equipping of the airport, and are already familiar with it.

The old airport will remain as a standby facility and will be used for training purposes.

The Queen Alia International Airport will be particularly convenient to businessmen, Mr.

Suheimat said. It will be time-saving, in that people can reach it by a traffic free road. Modern equipment and procedures will also shorten the waiting time before flights.

Later on, in accordance with specifications set by an official committee, businessmen will be invited to apply for concessions at the airport. But the main restaurants and coffee shops will be run by Alia and the Civil Aviation Department.

The minister said he was hopeful that the orientation and soft opening operations will run smoothly and speedily.

Details of new airport: page 32

## Reagan 'ready to cut off military aid to Israel'

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — President Reagan is on the point of cutting off military aid to Israel because of its refusal to withdraw from Lebanon, according to a report published here on Monday. Washington Post columnist Rowland Evans and Robert Novak wrote that "the proper papers have been drafted for the president's signature and Reagan's own mood fits the occasion. Yet his inclination against confrontation is not even his closest advisers can be sure will actually invoke the embargo."

The columnists wrote that any such move, in current unfavourable political conditions, could invite Congressional retaliation orchestrated by Israel. Other complicating factors are the task of obtaining Syrian withdrawal, and Reagan's efforts to tie the Lebanese situation to West tensions—obliging Washington to support its Israeli ally.

Citing the president's earlier efforts to ex-

press American determination to end the Israeli occupation—and his own description of the Israeli troops as "occupying forces"—Evans and Novak said Mr. Reagan was ready to overlook the difficulties, "buck the political furies" and sign the arms cut-off papers.

Earlier this week, presidential envoy Philip Habib returned to Washington amid growing signs of US impatience over the slow pace of the Lebanese-Israeli withdrawal negotiations.

State Department Spokesman John Hughes said, "It certainly isn't any secret that we regret the slow pace at which those negotiations have been proceeding. But we certainly hope that can be changed in these discussions."

"We have said we favour the total withdrawal of PLO Syrian and Israeli forces from Lebanon."

Marines confront Israelis: see page 32

## Opec row threatens pound

By Len Rockingham

Star London Correspondent

LONDON — The collapse of the Opec meeting in Geneva on Tuesday has caused widespread fears in government and economic circles about the effects on the world economy of a possible sharp fall in oil prices. The price of oil on the unofficial Rotterdam market — widely regarded as a sensitive indicator of oil price trends — did fall on Tuesday by \$2 a barrel, but this is not yet being taken as evidence of a long-term fall.

### Lowest value ever

The most dramatic effect of the Opec meeting was the fall in the value of the pound sterling, following the prediction on Monday by Saudi Oil Minister Sheikh Yamani that Britain would be forced to cut the price of North Sea oil by \$2 to \$3 a barrel.

Early on Tuesday morning, the pound was being sold in Far East markets at its lowest value ever against the dollar — 1.5175. But it recovered some of the lost ground against the dollar once the London currency markets opened, although

against other currencies the pound still fell sharply.

If Sheikh Yamani's prediction comes true, the British government will lose considerable revenue from a \$2 to \$3 a barrel drop in North Sea oil prices, and oil companies will be reluctant to search for new reserves. However, Britain's Oil Minister, Mr. Nigel Lawson, said that a drop in the dollar price of North Sea oil would be offset by a drop in the value of the pound against the dollar.

He added that the real danger was from a possible sharp and substantial drop in oil prices, which could do as much damage to the world economy as the sharp and substantial rise in oil prices in the 1970s.

Fears of a sharp drop in oil prices were the main cause of the turmoil in currency markets, according to London dealers on Tuesday. It was pointed out that three large oil-producing countries — Nigeria, Mexico and Venezuela — together have outstanding debts of \$90,000 million, and a sharp drop in oil prices would put many of the world's leading banks in severe difficulties.

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## Commission plans for architectural balance

By Lella G. Deeb  
Star Staff Writer

AMMAN -- "We Jordanians are fully aware of the rapid pace of Jordan's architectural development, and realize that our Arab Islamic heritage faces a challenge today in determining the future of its physical surroundings," Her Majesty Queen Noor told The Jerusalem Star this week.

Her Majesty was speaking on the subject of the Commission for the Conservation of Architectural Heritage, whose preparatory meeting she had just chaired.

The Queen feels that a balance must be maintained between society's increasing demand for modern buildings in new architectural styles and the architectural heritage of Jordan.

This was what prompted her idea of a conservation commission over a year ago. At that time the Queen invited various government ministers and officials, in addition to several well-known architects, to work on the idea.

The meeting held at the palace this week was attended by the ministers and officials concerned and by representatives of the private sector. They discussed the commission's draft law and suggested several amendments. Judge Faud Khoury has been a key figure in drafting the laws of the commission.

When the law is finalized it will be presented to the cabinet for approval, after which the commission will become an official government body. The commission will have a juristic character, allowing it to charge fees, make investments and allocate funds for its work.

The Queen said that another aspect of the work of the commission will be to see that cities, towns, buildings and monuments are planned in keeping with the Jordanian tradition.

"The modern features of our buildings and landmarks today should continue to reflect, no matter how subtly, our pride in Jordan's history

and culture, and our more noble aspirations as established by our ancestors throughout civilization."

The discussion of the draft law and the purpose of the commission elicited many diverse and original ideas. To incorporate them all in a sensible and productive manner the Queen suggested that two committees be formed, one to deal with old buildings, and the other with new ones. The two committees will then co-ordinate their work.

The queen, in her interview with The Star, emphasized that "our task now is to draw people together" to define priorities for the future in order to satisfy the aspirations of the people while preserving traditional values.



Queen Noor chairs the architectural commission meeting (Petra photo)

### Reliance on foreigners being phased out

## Saudi praises Jordan's efforts

AMMAN--Efforts to preserve the architectural heritage of Saudi Arabia are neither official nor formalised, says Saudi architect Ziad Ahmad Zaidan.

In Amman to attend a meeting of the Jordanian Commission for the Conservation of Architectural Heritage, Mr. Zaidan talked to the Star about his personal work in creating a body to protect and preserve Saudi architecture.

He said that although he and his co-workers had started almost five years ago, and were thus ahead of Jordan in time, "Jordan has probably taken faster steps than Saudi Arabia in this field." The newly-formed commission is making the work in Jordan official, whereas the Saudi work has not had that boost.

The ultimate aim of both groups, continued Mr. Zaidan, is the same: to preserve Arab heritage. Until now, due to lack of training and experience in this field, (Arabs) have had to rely on international expertise. Now this reliance is being phased out and the standard of work done in preserving the past is being improved.

For his part, Mr. Zaidan had felt it was his duty and that of architects in general to preserve their heritage. The research was supported purely by personal means. Mr. Zaidan himself has invested about \$2 million in the project; but now Saudi Arabia as a whole benefits from his research.

In this way the Saudis can co-operate with Jordan, exchanging ideas and sharing achievements to their mutual benefit through professional co-operation programmes, seminars and symposia.

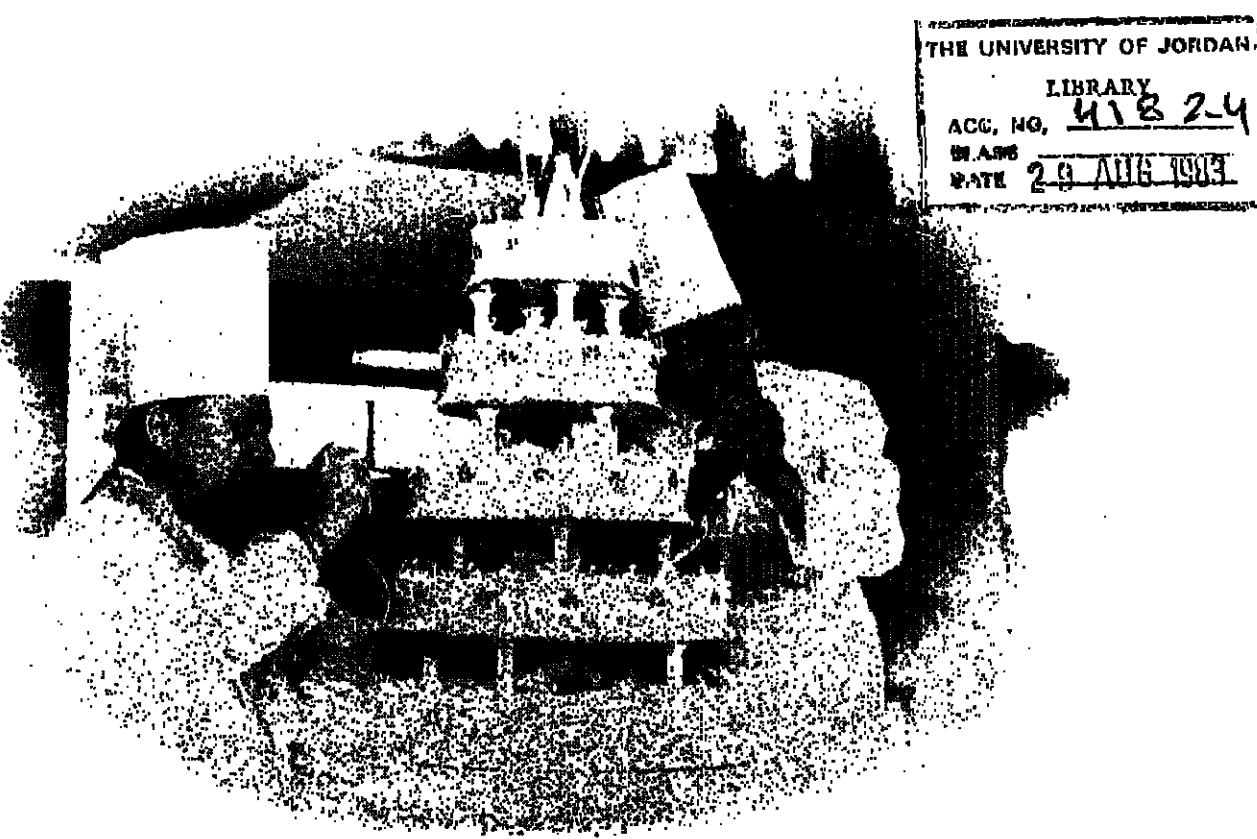
An urgent requirement, according to Mr. Zaidan, is to structure a sound, long-term economic base generating funds to preserve past heritage. Present and future physical developments, such as buildings and roads, have to learn from the past.

"We must establish and synthesize the past's architectural achievement, establish a new vocabulary and design guidelines for future generations to follow." At the same time, he added, they must advance on past achievements in architecture, utilising the latest applied techniques.

Mr. Zaidan hopes that in the near future, a textbook on Saudi Arabian architectural heritage, written in scientific, analytical architectural terms, will be published and taught at Saudi universities and schools of architecture.

Mr. Zaidan expressed the hope that the new Jordanian commission will establish policies and guidelines that can balance heritage, technology and progress.

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## Queen attends village's 'Greening' celebration

HER MAJESTY Queen Noor on Saturday participated in a special celebration in Umm-Al-Basatin village in Mudaba District, as part of the "Greening of Jordan" project.

The Queen took part in a tree-planting ceremony at the village, in which orchard and forest trees were planted around the town's boys' school. Later, she helped village children plant trees around their homes.

Queen Noor visited villagers and met their families. At the town's rural women's society, she heard a briefing on its activities and proceeded to tour the girls' preparatory school and the youth club.

Social Development Minister In'am Al-Mufti, accompanying the Queen on the visit, made a speech which stressed the importance of citizen participation in community development.

The "Greening of Jordan" project was initiated by the Queen last year. Speaking about its aims, Mrs. Mufti said her ministry—which is administering the project—is encouraging parents and children to share the responsibility of planting trees in their neighbourhoods. Prizes are offered to those who excel in these activities.

The project, which also has an overall rural development emphasis, involves the ministries of agriculture and municipal and rural affairs. At Umm Al-Basatin, the former has distributed 4,000 saplings for planting.



Above and left, Queen Noor demonstrates the spirit of the "Greening" project. Below, A gathering of young Umm Al-Basatin residents welcomes the Queen (Petra photos)



## Momani meets Yemeni counterpart



Mr. Hassan Al-Momani (right) and Mr. Mohammad Jad'an (left) confer in Amman


MINISTER OF Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment Hassan Al-Momani led a Jordanian team for a meeting on Saturday with North Yemeni Municipalities and Housing Minister Mohammad Jad'an, during which matters of mutual interest and the exchange of expertise and officials were discussed.

Mr. Momani told his Yemeni counterpart, on a four-day visit to Jordan, that Amman would be willing to offer North Yemen the benefit of its experience in housing and municipal affairs, especially in the administration of provincial communities. Technical co-operation

and exchanges of visits by officials would also be welcomed, he said.

Mr. Jad'an, leading a team from his country in the talks, said North Yemen would look forward to such co-operation. He invited Mr. Momani and senior ministry officials to visit Sana'a to look into its development work and explain the need for assistance.

Mr. Momani described the Municipal and Rural Affairs Ministry's activities and relevant legislation in Jordan.


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## King to Belgium after Gulf tour



HIS MAJESTY King Hussein and Her Majesty Queen Noor flew to Spain on Tuesday and to Belgium yesterday for three-day official visit at the invitation of King Baudouin and Queen Fabula. The King will hold high-level talks during the visit.

King Hussein on Monday returned home from a tour of Arab Gulf states. The three-day trip took him to Kuwait, Qatar, Bahrain and Oman. After his last stop in Oman, a cabinet minister there said the King's talks with Sultan Qaboos bin Sa'id "showed identity of views on the future steps which should be taken, to reach a peaceful settlement of the Middle East problem."

On each of his stops during the trip, the King met with

the countries' leaders to bring them up to date on the latest developments regarding Jordan's Arab and international efforts to reach a just Middle East peace. They also discussed joint Arab action in this regard.

Meeting King Hussein at the airport on Monday were His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, National Consultative Council Speaker Suleiman Arar, Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd Ibn Zaid, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces Lt. Gen. Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker, cabinet ministers, military officers and the charges d'affaires of the Amman embassies of the countries he visited.



Emir of Qatar Sheikh Khalifa bin Hamad Al-Thani accompanies the King on his arrival in Qatar during his Gulf tour. (AP Wirephoto)

## Citizens seek protection

A MEETING at the headquarters of the General Union of Voluntary Societies on Monday discussed setting up a national society for the protection of citizens from accidents.

Dr. Abdullah Al-Khatib, chairman of the union, Traffic Department Director Col. Ahmad Abu Al-Su'oud and Dr. Hani Shak'a from the Royal Scientific Society spoke at the meeting.

## IDB lends to seven industries

THE INDUSTRIAL Development Bank has agreed to extend seven loans to small industries. They will finance a business for installation and expansion of radiators, a natural fertilizer plant and veterinary pharmaceuticals, confectionery, knitwear, printing and stone-breaking industries.

The projects will add JD 557,000 to the national income during the first year of production, and will provide jobs for 81 workers, officials at the bank said.

The bank extended 104 loans during 1982, for a total of JD 10.3 million. Twenty-four loans were used for purchasing raw materials and 80 loans for to finance the purchase of capital goods.

Meanwhile, the central bank reported that credit facilities offered by commercial banks during last October increased by JD 18.03 million over the month before.

The value of those facilities came to JD 882.441 million at the end of October, compared to JD 864,152 million at the end of September, the bank's monthly statistical bulletin said.

## Jordan signs two accords with Soviets

A SOVIET delegation representing the country's cultural and foreign friendship societies, and one representing the civil aviation labour union, left Amman on Tuesday after week-long visits.

Mr. Alexi Sakhanov, head of the friendship delegation, said upon departure that the visit, during which a cultural exchange agreement was signed, represented an "advanced step" in bilateral relations. Mr. Sakhanov is chairman of the Soviet-Jordanian friendship society.

The Soviet visitors held a meeting with His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan during their visit. The cultural exchange accord was signed between the Soviet society and the Jordanian-Soviet friendship society on Sunday, when the team also met Information Minister and Acting Prime Minister Adnan Abu Odah.

Under the agreement, 25 Jordanian students will receive scholarships for study at Soviet institutions and universities. It also stipulates an exchange of visits by a Jordanian delegation and one from Soviet Uzbekistan.

The Soviet civil aviation labour movement delegation, led by Union Secretary Ivan Kabakov (who is also secretary of the central committee of Soviet labour unions), met Labour Minister Jawad Al-Anani. Dr. Anani lauded the Soviet Union's support for Arab causes and Palestinian rights, and gave the visitors a briefing on the Jordanian labour movement.



Crown Prince Hassan meets the visiting Soviet delegation (Petra photo)

The team also held what Mr. Kabakov called talks of "great importance" with other Jordanian officials. Under an agreement between the Soviet group

and its Jordanian counterpart, officials will exchange visits and Jordanian aviation personnel will benefit from two scholarships for study in the Soviet Union.

## In Brief

• THE MINISTRY of the Interior has laid down instructions requiring the installation of seat belts in all vehicles. The instructions will take force concurrently with the new traffic law, now under discussion in the National Consultative Council.

• A COMMITTEE entrusted with preparations for Jordan's participation in the Lausanne International Fair, under Industry and Trade Minister Walid Asfour, held a meeting to discuss ideas and means aimed at securing effective Jordanian participation in the fair, to be held in September.

• JORDAN WILL participate in a meeting of the permanent committee for antiquities in the Arab countries, to convene in Manama on 15 February.

• YARMOUK UNIVERSITY announced this week that it had prepared a new documentary film on the university in Arabic, English and French.

• A TRAINING course for teachers at the Princess Sarvath Community College will start soon at the University of Jordan, it was announced this week.

THE GENERAL Assembly of the Jordanian Red Crescent Society will hold its regular meeting on 30 January to discuss the 1983 budget.

• JORDAN became the first country to address the UN Security Council in Arabic after that language was approved as an official language of the council as of 1 January.



# 'Time for trilateral transfer'

By Kathy Spillman  
Star Staff Writer

AMMAN--A real, but "silent" revolution is taking place in the world economic system. The wide-ranging changes are directly related to the Arab oil-producing countries and their diminishing role as "currency lords" in international banking.

This revolution was the main subject of debate at the eighth annual International Study Days organized by the Plo Manzu Research Centre and the Italian National Council for Scientific Research in October 1982. Dr. Albert Butros, Director-General of the Royal Scientific Society, represented Jordan.

The study days were held in cooperation with the United Nations, the European Economic Community, the League of Arab States, Opec and various Italian ministries. Participants included Arab League Secretary-General Chadi Klihi, Opec Chairman, Youssef Shirawi and the distinguished US economist Milton Friedman.

His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan was invited to address the meeting in recognition of his outstanding role in regional development, but was unable to attend.

On the Prince's behalf, Dr. Butros presented a paper on the subject of the transfer of technology.

## 'One should go beyond'

"The study days represented part of a continuous effort to bring about discussion and an exchange of ideas" between North and South countries, particularly between Europe and the Middle East, Dr. Butros told The Star.

While the exchange of ideas represented an important element, "one should go beyond, to widen the circle of exchange and move towards the exchange of publications, expertise and actual projects, particularly in the areas of joint research between European and Arab organizations to further progress and development in the Arab world."

The three-day conference dealt with topics of primary interest to Euro-Arab relations. These included the oil question and finance markets, technology transfer and energy saving in industrial economies.



Crown Prince Hassan



Dr. Albert Butros

But Dr. Butros said the most important topic debated was the oil question, as it figures most prominently in the economic decision-making processes in Europe and the Arab World—and currently dominates Euro-Arab political relations.

European and Arab scholars agreed that the great economic phenomenon of the 1970s was the tremendous increase in the volume of international bank loans to Third World countries struggling to build their economies. This phenomenon has continued into the first phase of the 1980s, against a background of high interest rates on the dollar, strains on exchange markets and increasing economic and political upheaval.

The participants in the conference pointed out that the most striking development directly connected to the international debt crisis was the position of Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (Opec) members on petrodollar recycling in 1981.

## Opec's reliance increases

In 1979, Opec deposits at international banks were equal to about 55 per cent of the current surplus of oil-producing countries. However, in 1980 the percentage fell to 38 per cent, and in 1981 it went below 32 per cent.

Thus, it was concluded that after an

interval of more than 10 years, the major industrial countries have become the main suppliers of new funds for international banks while Opec's reliance on bank credits has steadily increased. Because of this analysis, representatives from the Arab oil-producing countries were particularly interested in exchanging ideas and information with their European counterparts at the study days so as to predict trends for the future.

## Jordan's contribution

The main problem discussed was the fixing of a profitable and stable price for oil, one that would safeguard Opec countries from the fluctuation of the dollar. The Arab delegates were also concerned with exploring better ways of channelling and investing petrodollars that would protect the Arabs from high inflation in the industrial world.

The question of technology transfer between Europe and the Middle East was also an important topic of debate at the study days. In this context, Jordan was selected by the Plo Manzu Centre to play an active and central role.

"Jordan was viewed by the organizers of the conference as a key participant whose contribution goes beyond its demographic size because of its central position in the Arab world, and its large contribution to national development."

development in several Gulf countries. The contribution is basically through skilled manpower, not only in the technical field but in administrative areas as well," said Dr. Butros.

The issue of technology transfer has become increasingly important to Third World countries because the concept has changed considerably in recent years. According to the findings of Dr. Butros and others, an important reason for this is the pressure now exerted by countries which produce raw materials—especially oil-producing countries—on industrial nations, for a more equitable economic, political and technological relationship.

An area of mutual concern for Europeans and Arabs is the US administration's policy of direct state intervention in the realm of technology transfer. Discussions centred around ideas for new forms of co-operation where countries which have achieved moderate levels of technological advancement, such as Italy and the southern EEC countries, can co-operate in technology transfer with Arab and other Third World nations which have raw materials and capital. This in turn would help promote reciprocal economic and social development.

As described in the paper presented by Dr. Butros, this co-operation should be brought about by abandoning the traditional approach of bilateral co-operation and adopting a new trilateral formula. Transfer of technology between a highly industrialized state and an underdeveloped country should take place through a medium industrialized state. "The middle country would act as a mediator for a better

transfer between the two countries."

Dr. Butros strongly emphasised that his proposed "tripartite approach" should be especially applied to the training of individuals for a transfer of technology. "There is much training required for a transfer between an LDC (less developed country) and a highly industrialized country. The training would be much more beneficial if it is conducted in a 'middle' country," he said.

## Culture shock

Dr. Butros put forth several arguments in favour of his trilateral formula for training technocrats. He gave the example of a person from an impoverished African country being sent by his government to study chemical engineering in Paris. "There exists a strong possibility that his form of training will be too advanced and his knowledge will be inapplicable in his country. He will also risk the chance of suffering from cultural shock."

"It would be much more practical and useful if this student was sent to Tunisia, for example, for his training. He would learn more that is relevant and applicable to his country's needs."

## Prestige training

According to Dr. Butros, the decision to train technocrats abroad has to be geared more towards the needs of the underdeveloped country rather than enhancing the prestige of the government. And while academic education plays an indispensable role in training a person, actual work in the field of his specialization should also be stressed.

"Sometimes countries spend too much money on training a person in MIT (The Massachusetts Institute of Technology), for example, for prestige purposes, when much of the training could be done locally and then usefully applied to regional development."

The Plo Manzu Centre was founded in 1969 by a group of Italian and other scholars and academics concerned with North-South relations and the development gap.

The aims of the organization are to improve conditions of industrial development, identify new modes of co-operation, increase international exchanges between the developed and developing world and launch concrete research and projects to enhance the global standard of living.



## Jordanian families spend 42% of their money on foodstuffs

AMMAN (Star) -- Residents of the East Bank of Jordan allot an average of 42.22 per cent of their family spending to foodstuffs, according to a recent report by the Statistics Department.

Food is followed in importance by housing, which gets 35.4 per cent of spending; services, 16.6 per cent, and clothing, 6.58 per cent.

The department said these figures were "acceptable," pointing out that the lower a family's income, the larger proportion of it would be spent on food.

In the Amman area, the average breakdown came to 38.56 per cent of expenditure for food, 37.3 per cent for housing, 17.69 per cent for services and 6.71 per cent for clothing. In Ma'an, 56.45 per cent of spending was for food, 23.1 per cent for housing, 14.1 per cent for services and 6.51 per cent for clothing.

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# 'It is a unique time in history'

Joseph J. Sisco is a member of the small group of Americans with an intimate and longstanding association with Middle Eastern affairs. Most recently, he served as under-secretary for political affairs (the number three post in the State Department) under President Ford. He is now in private business, but keeps up his political contacts. Star Washington Correspondent Abdulla Massarrah interviewed him on the current Middle East situation.

**Question:** If you were in the position of President Reagan and his secretary of state, what would you do in order to move the negotiations concerning Lebanon to a more productive stage?

**Answer:** There is no quick fix for the situation. We have to negotiate the conditions which make possible the early withdrawal of all extraneous forces, Syrian, Israeli and PLO. This will continue to be done, and pressed, in my judgment, by the United States in circumstances where unfortunately we will continue to see a certain amount of strife and some sporadic violence, largely because of the feelings, the emotions and the scars in Lebanon are very deep. However, on the whole the critical question boils down to:

1. Can we negotiate the kind of security arrangements, which assure that from the Israeli point of view, southern Lebanon will no longer will be a base for an attack across its northern border? And from the point of view of Lebanon, which provide the opportunity to slowly assert the increasing influence of the central authority, not only over all of Beirut, but ultimately over the entire country.

2. The critical and the immediate tactical issue whether these discussions will be of a political character or military character. I think these two aspects tend to interact upon one another, and without trying to forecast what the formula might be, I think a discussion of both these aspects will be required.

And I believe that you will find that after this period of consultations that the United States will renew its effort, because it is quite committed to the continuing support of the political independence and the territorial integrity of Lebanon, of Lebanon that has to remain part of the Arab world, and Lebanon that has to maintain peaceful relations with its neighbour, Israel.

**Q:** What do you comment on the action of the Senate of Appropriations Committee which added to the amount the president of the US requested in the foreign aid bill for Israel?

**A:** The action of the Congress, in my judgment, was regrettable, but there is no need to overdraw its significance. The administration has a strong bipartisan support in American public opinion and within the Congress, both with respect to its policy of playing a key dynamic activist role in bringing about the withdrawal of extraneous forces from Lebanon, and what is likely to be the ongoing peacekeeping function, which the United States will in my judgment have to perform for a fairly extensive period.

Secondly, there is also a broad bipartisan support in an out of the Congress for the Reagan initiative and for the indispensable third party role of the United States to press on in the peace process. So, while I personally regret the limited action taken by the Congress, I think it will be mistake to interpret that action as either a sabotage of the administration, or undermining the administration; or that it reflects any lack of support on the part of the American people as well as the Congress for the two major directions which the United States has committed itself to undertake: one in Lebanon, and the other in relationship to the peace process.

The major significance of the Reagan peace initiative of last September, in which we called for the Palestinian Arabs residing in the West Bank and in Gaza to have some form of self-government in association with Jordan, is based on the fundamental assumption that our policy is directed towards bringing about changes both in the conditions and in the environment in Israel, as well as the Arab world.

Let me elaborate: In Israel I believe as you look ahead to 1983, we will see increasingly that political debate focuses on four issues: 1. Whatever the Commission of Inquiry decides; 2. The question of the timing of Israeli disengagement from Lebanon; 3. The question of the Israeli position in relationship to the peace process, whether it continues to move in the direction of the Begin policy of de-facto control, if not de-facto annexation of the West Bank and the Gaza, or to move alternatively towards trying to negotiate a territorial compromise with Jordan; 4. A somewhat deteriorating situation in Israel, which more people are going to focus on now that the height of the war in Lebanon has diminished.

The significance of the Reagan proposal is that it has helped stimulate this political dialogue, this political debate, and my own judgment is that it is a slow evolutionary process, that it is going to take time. It is going to require sustained diplomatic efforts, to last months. The ultimate results in the debate on these four issues, in my judgment, will not finally be decided until there are elections in Israel, which in my judgment will take part in the latter part of 1983. That is the dialogue on the Israeli side.

**Q:** Do you believe that time is on the side of peace, knowing that Israel has intensified its settlements policy, and is bent on building more of these settlements, and the Reagan administration has not done anything to stifle or freeze these Israeli schemes?

**A:** I think that you put your finger on the critical question of time, and it is very critical, because from the point of view of US diplomacy, the critical matter is, can diplomacy reassert its supremacy, or will events on the ground blot out the opportunities that have developed in the aftermath of Lebanon?

The process being undertaken, I underscore, is a process that seeks to change conditions and environment both in Israel and the Arab world. There is no assurance that it can move rapidly enough to assert not only the relevance of diplomacy, but to maintain the momentum that was begun by the Reagan proposal that was begun last September.

In the Reagan proposal the president has said clearly "No" to Israeli annexation or de-facto annexation of the West Bank and the Gaza, and "No" to the notion of an independent Palestinian state. There is an opportunity to get the process started on the basis of Jordan being the principal negotiating partner, and opportunity for the Palestinian Arabs to participate in the political process, and therefore become part of the process of determining their own future.

The Reagan proposal is too much for the Israelis, and too little for the Arabs. What the Arabs face, and Jordan in particular, in my judgment, is that the alternative to the Reagan proposal is not an independent Palestinian state. But what may very well occur is the increasing de-facto control, or annexation, of the West Bank and Gaza. The opportunity that is inherent in the Reagan proposal for asserting both a Jordanian and a Palestinian role may be lost. Therefore I have a sense of urgency about this matter, but a sense of urgency which is moderated by the reality that in order for the peace process to take off from the beginning point of the Reagan proposal, changes are required on both sides.

Both sides, essentially, have staked out maximal positions: an Israeli categorical rejection on one hand, neither an acceptance or a rejection on the Arab side. In don't mean to equate the two, but if it is possible for the King of Jordan, King Hussein, to take this explicit decision, admittedly in this environment of yellow caution light, this more than anything else, will offer the opportunity for US diplomacy to further the process.

But I underscore that the direction in which we are involved, and by "we" I mean the Israelis, the Arabs and the United States, is one of an evolutionary character; and that its success or failure will be ultimately decided by the ability to bring about these changes. Admittedly each side, in his own way, has a limited amount of room for manoeuvre.



Joseph Sisco

**Q:** Why is it that everybody is asking the PLO and the Arabs to capitulate to Israeli conditions dictates?

**A:** I do not think it is a question of the United States addressing demands only to one side. If you look at the United States role in the last seven to eight years, we played a central role in achieving two disengagement agreements between Israel and Egypt, one between Syria and Israel and the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty in Camp David. We insisted upon concessions from both sides, and achieved it.

So I do not think it is fair to say that we only make demands of one side. I think that we clearly recognize that if we are going to succeed in this very difficult stage, and one of the characteristics of the Middle East problems, that you move from the difficult to the more difficult. That concessions have to be made on both sides.

My own judgment is that if Amman can take an explicit decision to move ahead, that this will change the situation quite dramatically. It certainly will affect the political debate in Israel, and I think that we are at a critical juncture. For the United States to be able to sustain a momentum for the peace process, we must clearly understand that the Reagan initiative of last September was only a beginning point, and what will be required are changes in the positions of both sides.

Each has reacted largely in terms of reaffirmation of what has been, for the most part, positions of the past long held. So I would not say that we reacted in a one-sided fashion, and I think realistically you cannot trade, and you cannot condition recognition on the basis of trying to secure in return for any negotiations a commitment on withdrawal, a commitment on recognition of the PLO, or a commitment on an independent Palestinian state. Recognition is the starting point of the negotiations.

**Q:** If you were going to give marks to the Arabs and the Israelis in their initial and continuous reaction to the Reagan peace initiative, what marks would you give each party to the conflict?

**A:** There has been a symmetry in the reaction. The Arabs have been wise in my judgment in keeping the door open for further explorations, pursuant to the Reagan initiative. The reaction has been ambiguous, not as explicit as is required in order to build on the initiative, but nevertheless, Fez did represent a "unified set of proposals," on the part of the Arab world, which in my judgment were based on the principles of coexistence.

And regardless of the specific shortcomings of the individual positions it is not without significance that such a statement was made, and more important that below the tip of the iceberg, it has set in train a procedure, a committee, with a mandate to further explore the situation.

It is one of those unique times in history, where the process may be just as important as the substance, and therefore while one will hope that the Arab world can move forward more explicitly, nevertheless I will have to give the Arab world higher marks for its reactions to the Reagan proposals than the Israeli reaction of categorical rejection.

**Q:** What are your thoughts on the Iran-Iraq war, which has entered its third year?

**A:** Unfortunately it has settled into a stalemate without the end in sight. In this past year, we have seen Saddam Hussein to seek peace but it has been spurned by Khomeini. What I foresee is continuing Iranian pressure, both in the Basra area in Central Iraq, but with the Iranians not likely to be able to achieve a decisive military breakthrough. It is a costly thing for both sides, oil productions and revenues are down for both, and in my own judgment we are likely to see a continued sputtering stalemate of inconclusive character.

**Q:** What is your comment on the charges levelled against the US by Iraqi President Saddam Hussein, that the US could have stopped this war if it requested Israel and some Western allies stop rearming Iran?

**A:** It far overestimates the capacity of the United States to influence the direction of the Iraqi-Iranian war. For the most part the United States stayed out of the matter. There is today no practical basis under Khomeini for a working relationship between the United States and Iran, and for anyone to say that we could influence the directions of Khomeini's policy today clearly this is not realistically the case.

We would like to see this war come to an end, we believe it is a destabilizing factor, and as long as Khomeini is in charge, I believe that the general direction will continue to be as we see it.

**Q:** What fears the United States have on the possibility of the creation of a Palestinian state in the future?

**A:** I think in the short run the United States concern is—and it was one of the prime motivating factors in the Reagan initiative of September—that events on the ground will outstrip diplomacy, and when I say in the ground I mean both sides. Of course we are concerned with Israeli moves towards de-facto annexation, but we are equally concerned that within the Arab world the limits of the political manoeuvrability might not permit them to grasp the opportunity for this next stage, as we see it in the Reagan proposals.

In so far as a Palestinian state is concerned, the basic notion of satisfying Palestinian rights, which are an indispensable element in order to achieve a stable and true peace in the area, gives the Palestinians the opportunity to play a significant role in governing themselves in the first instance and ultimately determine their own future.

I am of the view that if we can get an understanding, and some reasonable sensible form of self-government in which the Palestinian Arabs have the full opportunity to participate, that this would arrest the process of increasing de-facto control and de-facto annexation on the part of Israel of the West Bank. At the same time, it will ultimately leave open what the nature of the relationship will be between a Palestinian Arab West Bank and Gaza and the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan.

Therefore my view is based on the practical reality of what I believe is achievable in the short run. The question of an entity or a state, or whatever the relationship might be, it seems to me will look considerably different, five or 10 years from now if we have had beforehand a practical interim test of co-existence on the ground for a reasonable period of time.

So in the short run of the next five to six years (we need) a successful example of on-the-ground co-existence, which at the same time would put more of a gap between the developments of this past year in Lebanon and some of the new realities that have resulted in its aftermath. One does not know what situation will apply to, five or 10 years from now, and if you have that practical example, the kind I am talking about, I would have thought the whole issue of an independent entity will look considerably different.



Technology transfer needs more practical implementation, Dr. Butros says



## Mubarak says Syria agreed to the invasion

CAIRO—President Husni Mubarak said that the Israelis have violated an agreement with the Syrians during their invasion of Lebanon. An agreement between the Israelis and the Syrians allowed the Israelis to go as deep as 40 km. into Lebanon, then stop thus leaving parts of Lebanon under Israeli and the rest under Syria, Mubarak said.

## PLO Executive Committee to change

RIYADH—Press reports said the coming meeting of the Palestine National Council in Algeria will introduce some changes to the formation of the Executive Committee, such as increasing the number of its members. Al-Riyadh newspaper reported that some changes in the political department, such as dividing it into two sections one of them for Arab affairs and the second for international affairs, will be introduced. Mr. Mahmoud Abbas "Abu Mazen" will head one of the two sections, the newspaper said. Wide transfers will take place among PLO representatives in the world, the newspaper added. Mr. Yasser Arafat will be granted special powers for his contacts with Jordan and Egypt the newspaper quoted sources from the PNC Council as saying.

## Thirteen killed in S. Sudan

KHARTOUM—Thirteen people were killed Tuesday and three were injured when robbers raided the railway station in Aryat in southern Sudan, the Sudanese Army Command said. A military statement said that the situation went back to normal after it has been clarified that the victims were merchants from northern Sudan. The culprits escaped but the army is conducting sweeping operations while security measures were taken at railway stations and in trains operating in southern parts of the country.

## Nile water reaches Sinai

CAIRO—The Governor of northern Sinai General Munir Shaah, said that the Nile waters will be pumped to Sinai for the first time next month. During the first stage, water will reach Bir Al-Abed, which lies at equal distance between Qantara East and Al-Arish. A plan to extend the Nile waters to Al-Arish through 700 mm diameter pipes will be completed within three years, thus ending a long era of separation between the rich land of the Nile delta and Sinai desert. Egypt has ambitious plans to reclaim the Sinai desert in order to move some of the population living on the banks of the Nile river to Sinai. "The majority of Egyptians live on 5 per cent of Egyptian territory," he told Al-Ahram newspaper.

## Iranian request rejected

RABAT—King Hassan of Morocco and Mr. Yasser Arafat rejected a request by an Iranian delegation to distribute a statement among participants in the Jerusalem Committee and the seven-member committee during their meetings. The Iranian delegation was told that it has no right to distribute such a statement.

## Oman and S. Yemen to draw borders

ABU DHABI—The first meeting of the technical committee for the borderline between Oman and South Yemen was held Tuesday in Abu Dhabi with the participation of the United Arab Emirates and Kuwait. The points of view of Oman and South Yemen on marking the borderline will be reviewed in the light of documents presented by both parties to prove their right in the border areas. This falls within the implementation of the principles agreement concluded between the two countries regarding the marking of the borderline and the normalisation of relations between them.



Palestinian women protesting in the aftermath of the camps massacres

## How Beirut buried the dead

Editor's note: The following article appeared in The Guardian weekly issue of 9 January under the same title.

By Loren Jenkins

MORE than three months after the massacre that shocked the world, the men who planned and led the slaughter of still untold hundreds of men, women and children at the Shatila and Sabra refugee camps here are going about their business, as powerful as ever.

The Government of President Amin Gemayel appears to be doing little to track down and punish them. Western diplomats report signs that Gemayel has actually made a tacit pact with these same men that allows them to continue above the law in pursuance of their unique vision of how to make Lebanon safe for the Christianity they profess to practice.

Phalangist commanders identified by a variety of diplomatic, intelligence and Christian sources as being responsible for the massacre that took place between the evening of 16 September and the morning of 18 September, are reported today at their posts in the Lebanese Forces Militia created and commanded by Gemayel's assassinated brother Bashir.

It was Bashir Gemayel's death in a bomb explosion in his party headquarters, nine days before he was to assume the presidency now held by his brother, that set off the chain of events that led to the Israeli military occupation of Muslim West Beirut and the subsequent entry of their Lebanese Forces allies into Shatila and Sabra.

In Israel, the fact that its government approved the Christian Militia's entry into the camps and that its military then provided logistical support for their operations was enough to shake the government of Prime Minister Menachem Begin and force an independent state inquiry into possible government derelictions of duty.

In Lebanon, the official reaction was to deny that the Christian Militia was actually involved and to appoint the powerless Lebanese army's Christian prosecutor general to conduct what even government supporters admit was a perfunctory, empty investigation.

While the Israeli investigating commission has gone as far as calling Begin, defence minister Ariel Sharon and senior military and intelligence officials to testify about the exact knowledge they had at the time the massacre was going on, the Lebanese investigator has not even gone to the Lebanese Forces Militia's East Beirut headquarters to ask their commanders where they were at the time of the crime.

There are signs, according to one distressed Western diplomat closely following the post-Shatila events, that even this pretense of an

investigation is about to be closed. "We have reports the so-called investigation is going to be allowed to expire on the grounds that since the Lebanese government had no authority over the camps at the time, it has no official competence to probe the affair," the diplomat said.

To this day no systematic effort by the Lebanese government has been made to determine the exact extent of the carnage.

Statistics are hard to come by, and there are varying numbers given for the Shatila dead, depending on the source consulted. But no one in the government has yet probed into what are believed to be mass graves dug by the two bulldozers that were provided to the Militia by the Israeli army.

Sharon last week came up with a figure of 479 dead, which probably is as accurate a count as exists of the bodies found above ground, in homes where doors had been kicked down, in patios where victims had been surprised, or in the streets and alleys where many appeared to have been gunned down trying to flee. At one session of the Israeli investigating commission, Sharon cited a figure as high as 700 to 800, but in Lebanon no one has done enough investigating to confirm or deny such numbers.

There is an undercurrent of tension that suggests it is dangerous to discuss the question. Muslim politicians, at heart seething about the dreadful deed, maintain their silence in public, privately attributing this to the higher priority of preserving the mythical national unity between Lebanon's Christians and Muslims.

The Lebanese Forces remain an independent entity answerable only to its own leaders. Since the Israeli invasion of Southern Lebanon and the subsequent evacuation of the Palestine Liberation Organization fighters who once ruled there, the Lebanese Forces have become even more powerful.

Exactly what President Gemayel's relationship is with the powerful private Militia his dead brother built is not totally clear. What is known is that the President has not tried to disarm the Militia that rivals the national army he is seeking to build, and of late there is talk of an understanding between Gemayel and Fadi Frem, the commander-in-chief of the Lebanese Forces hand-picked by Bashir Gemayel two days before his death.

Frem and the other key members of his command whom both Western diplomatic and Christian political sources have pinpointed as the men of Shatila are very much still in business, operating as if nothing had happened.

## 'Arab bet on US: illusion'

By Osama El-Sherif

Star Staff Writer

Amman  
The 1 September Reagan peace plan should not be considered as a replacement for an Arab peace plan, says Dr. Fuad Ajame, director of Middle Eastern studies at Johns Hopkins University in the United States.

"The Arab bet on the United States is an illusion and a deep study of the origins of Reagan's peace plan is needed."

Dr. Ajame, who was born in South Lebanon but is now an American citizen, is in Amman on a Middle East tour that includes Egypt, Jordan and the West Bank.

Dr. Ajame says that to understand the origins of Reagan's plan one must look at the early Reagan years, before and after he became president. "Mr Reagan gave Israel a green light to do whatever it wanted to in the area," he says. "As a result we witnessed the continued bombing of Beirut, the destruction of the Iraqi nuclear reactor and finally the Israeli invasion of Lebanon."

Begin and Reagan share a general philosophical outlook that brought them together and includes an emphasis on anti-communism, anti-terrorism and trenchant opposition to a Palestinian state.

"Begin used this philosophy to achieve his aims and Reagan found that his ally was running away with what he wanted and thus embarrassing the American position," Dr. Ajame says. "So the 1 September plan came out to correct the errors of the early Reagan years."

Dr. Jame says that the crux of the Reagan plan is to create distance between Reagan and Begin, introduce dialogue within the Jewish world regarding the future of Israel, to call upon American Jews to break away from the Begin government and to invite the Israeli Labour party to take up the initiative.

"So speaking as an Arab, I am dubious on the intentions of the Reagan peace initiative."

Speaking on the need for an Arab peace plan, Dr. Ajame says that the Arab response to Israel's actions has always been weak and inconsistent. "Whoever believes that we can still trade Arab recognition of Israel for land is mistaken. We passed this stage long time ago," he says. "We still do not understand the nature of our enemy. Israel is not concerned about our recognition anymore."

He called for a realistic approach to the conflict, where Arab recognition of Israel comes as part of the existing reality and not with the aim of re-gaining land. "An overall rethinking of the Arab-Israeli conflict is needed on our side. We must present to the world our plan for settlement without putting our bets on any camp."

He called for an illusion-free approach to the Arab-American relations. "We must have our own reading of the United States, where America will not come out as the devil, but also not as the saviour," Dr. Ajame said.

"Our strategies regarding conflicts must evolve. We are witnessing the era of Israeli deeds and Arab words. This has to change," he said. "We must understand that even if Israel managed to defeat the Arab armies now, ultimately it can't defeat Arab societies."



## Israelis meet Arafat

Three Israeli leftists met this week with PLO Chairman Mr. Yasser Arafat and other top Palestine Liberation Organization officials in Tunisia. From left to right are: Dr. Ya'cov Arnon, publisher Uri Avnery, Yasser Arafat, Major General retired Mattityahu Peled and PLO officials Issam Saratawi and Abu Mazen.

## Yemeni Minister lauds Jordan

By Mohammed Abu Ghosh

Special to the Star

AMMAN—Preliminary estimates of the earthquake losses in Yemen came to 5100 dead and injured, mostly women and children, and 400,000 displaced persons, according to the Yemeni Housing Minister currently visiting Jordan.

"Material losses range between \$4 and 5 billion dollars. 600 villages and towns were either destroyed or heavily damaged. 20 villages have completely

disappeared and 45,000 houses were destroyed. Many other houses and farms were damaged. Damar region was the most affected area. Search for lost people is still going on in areas lacking access. Those earthquakes will affect development projects in Yemen," said.

He emphasized that the main task of the government is to remove debris, search for lost people and secure tents to shelter 400,000 people and to provide them with basic services.

The Yemeni minister lauded the humanitarian role played by Jordan and expressed his gratitude to the Arab and foreign countries which offered assistance and support to the Yemeni people, mainly Saudi Arabia which donated 100 million riyals.

He supported the idea of the creation of a permanent Arab emergency organization to provide assistance at the time of need and to organise the flow of assistance from international organisations.



Khalde talks: Can they ensure Israel's withdrawal from Lebanon?

## Expert warns: Israel in S. Lebanon to stay

By Star Staff Writer

Amman  
A leading Middle East expert, Dr. Fuad Ajame, who is head of Middle East studies in Johns Hopkins University in the United States and of Lebanese origins, is very pessimistic about the future of Israeli occupied South Lebanon.

Dr. Ajame believes that although Israel has achieved all its objectives in Lebanon, it is naive of the Arabs to think that it will withdraw from the South without creating a new de facto situation in the area.

"The South is a new Arab issue now," he said. "Israel will do its best to put South Lebanon within its military or political sphere."

Dr. Ajame, a Shiite from South Lebanon, said that Israeli ambitions in the South have been known for a long time, despite Menachem Begin's repeated assurances that Israel does not want an inch of Lebanese territory. "If the Israelis withdraw from the South they must get something in return. They want rights to the waters of the Litani river, markets for Israeli goods and an enclave inside Arab territory," he said.

Some of these objectives are already being fulfilled by the Israelis. Israeli-made products are flooding Lebanese markets, especially in the South, Dr. Ajame said. "The Lebanese must understand Israel's mentality and learn how to cope with it and defeat it."

## Palestine in Brief

### Arafat threatens to reveal secrets

PARIS—Some Arab countries abandoned the Palestinians during the war in Lebanon," Yasser Arafat said. He promised to disclose all secret details as they happened in Beirut during the Israeli invasion of Lebanon. The statement was broadcast by the French TV this week.

### Palestinian teachers discharged

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM—A Palestinian school teacher from Ramallah was discharged after he was sentenced to four years (suspended) for possessing prohibited books. A Palestinian source mentioned that another teacher, Sami Abdul-Latif, was sentenced for two months on the same charge by Israeli military authorities.

### Ben Gurion's remark deleted

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM—Haaretz newspaper reported that the person entrusted with editing Ben Gurion's memoirs, to be published by the Israeli defence ministry under the title "Memoirs of the War", has deleted an expression by Ben Gurion following the occupation of Jaffa in 1948 whereby he said: "I passed through the city while 'Etsel' men saluted me. Those men looked like men of the underworld." Etsel men were the followers of Begin. The editor, Gershon Rivlin, said he deleted the phrase because it "represents a slip of tongue."

### Israel closes Al-Fajr

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM—The Israeli military authority ordered the offices of Al-Fajr newspaper in Bethlehem closed for three months until 18-4-83. The authorities broke into the offices last Tuesday and confiscated some of its contents including copies of Al-Bayad political magazine.



# Sandinists get Non-Aligned boost

The revolutionary government of Nicaragua is satisfied with international support it received recently, but some internal forces are posing a real danger to the regime, as these two stories tell

By Susan Morgan

MANAGUA (ONS)—Ten days ago, 87 representatives of Third World nations attending a Non-Aligned conference adopted a final communiqué which to some extent watered down a toughly worded "Managua declaration" indicating United States policy in Central America and the Caribbean.

Nonetheless, both the holding of the meeting in Managua and the communiqué itself, which retained the basic anti-imperialist thrust of the original, are seen as a diplomatic triumph for the beleaguered Sandinista regime. They helped to establish its international legitimacy, an obsession since the overthrow of the dictator Anastasio Somoza in 1979, and making it far harder for the US to bully or harass Nicaragua.

The communiqué refrained from mentioning the US as an aggressor by name. But it still con-

tributed strongly to condemn US interference in Nicaraguan internal affairs—notably the arming of anti-Sandinista forces in Honduras as well as Israeli provision of arms to Honduras and Guatemala.

Before the conference, a US official admitted that "whatever outcome, we will be unhappy with it." He conceded that the US had "talked" to friendly non-aligned nations before the meeting to persuade them to weaken the strongly anti-American document, which sought to blame the US for virtually all the ills of the region.

One knowledgeable observer said afterwards that the communiqué had indeed been toned down to make it a more balanced, less denunciatory document. "They had to take account of us policies in the region," he said. "Earlier it was really a propaganda platform."

But Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel d'E. score said: "The outcome was better than we expected."

Others said most delegates here had no idea about the regional issues involved "and frankly don't care too much."

Watered down or not, the communiqué was a final accomplishment for Cuban diplomacy, before Havana hands over chairmanship of the Non-Aligned Movement to India at the New Delhi summit in March. Cuba is held responsible for radicalising and Latinising the 20-year-old movement, with important implications for the US.

"In the past, the US was able to dismiss the Non-aligned as a collection of tinpot countries from Africa and Asia headed by a middle-ranking

power such as Yugoslavia," one observer said. "But now major, moderate Latin American powers such as Venezuela are about to join" (as are Colombia and possibly Mexico).

A key policy speech by the Nicaraguan junta co-ordinator, Daniel Ortega, picked up the theme of US interference but also dealt with desperate economic problems of developing nations. He pointed to the responsibility of the developed world in solving what he described as a "time bomb" of debt by the Third World.

Observers believe that under India's chairmanship, economic issues will come to the fore. "Third World nations realise the value of a concerted approach to solving their economic problems and pressuring the developed world," a commentator said.



Sandinistas before taking power: Now they are faced with a new set of problems

Although the United States and the Somocistas undeniably are using the Indians for their own goals, this is not a simple case of the CIA using an indigenous people to undermine the Nicaraguan regime. While combatants readily admit to having Somocista advisors and Honduran army logistics assistance, they believe they are manipulating as much as being manipulated.

"We're not fighting against the revolution," said one native insurgent in the nearby village of Aca, "we're fighting for our rights."

The Miskitos have enjoyed long periods of relative autonomy ever since the 17th century. Throughout the Somoza regime they own treated with benign neglect, left to run their own affairs. By the time of the Sandinista takeover, they were already sophisticated political decision-makers, and their ambitions took the young revolutionary government to task.

First they demanded an Indian rights organization, called Misurasata, which quickly licensed the Sandinistas by claiming title to 38 per cent of the national territory. They also asked for five seats on the Council of State (they had one) and representation on the ruling junta.

The Sandinistas reacted by jailing the entire leadership, charging them with fostering counter-revolutionary and separatist plans. They were released after thousands of Miskitos protesting in the streets of Puerto Cabezas and Waspan.

Anger and frustration was already high because of Managua's insistence that coastal residents be fully integrated into its programmes. For the Sandinistas, ethnic minorities and indigenous rights were not a major issue. This turned out to be a bad mistake.

## 'Good old days'

Sandinista rhetoric portraying the Miskitos as victims of imperialism was difficult for the Indians to understand. They recalled the years of the US economic domination as the "good old days" when jobs were plentiful and easy cash flowed. In fact, only a handful of Miskitos had fought in the revolution.

As a result of their well-intentioned but inappropriate actions, the Sandinistas caused fear and mistrust among a people who were already traditionally wary of all Spanish speakers from the western portion of the country. Many observers now feel that the situation has deteriorated to the point where a general coastal uprising is a very real possibility.

The Miskitos' demands for regional autonomy have lately been abandoned in favour of calling for the overthrow of the Sandinistas. But observers here feel there is still a chance for a compromise if the government makes a serious peace initiative, negotiates with the Miskito leadership, and perhaps establishes a special status for the Miskitos: one which balances autonomy and integration.

## Miskitos threaten Managua regime

By Jack Epstein and J.H. Evans  
Pacific News Service

PUERTO LEMPIRA, HONDURAS -- To much of the outside world, Nicaragua's Atlantic Coast Miskito Indians are seen as backward Central American natives, minor players in the opposition led by ex-Somoza guardsmen, disaffected Sandinistas and Managua businessmen. In fact, a four-month investigation of their activities along the Honduran-Nicaragua border reveals the Miskitos to be the most explosive military threat facing the young Sandinista revolutionary government today.

The Miskitos' highly motivated troops have created more havoc for the Nicaraguan army than the ex-Somoza guardsmen who operate on the Pacific side. Unlike the Somocista soldiers, who terrorize with hit and run raids, the Miskitos work on familiar terrain with the active support of the populace.

### Troops of the Cross

An insurrection almost occurred a year ago after 80 young Miskito fighters calling themselves the *Astros*, or *Troops of the Cross*, to illustrate their religious zeal, successfully attacked Sandinista outposts along the Rio Coco border with Honduras. The Nicaraguan government abruptly moved 8,500 Indian residents into five interior resettlement camps after destroying their homes and livestock. The Sandinistas claimed the safety of the villagers was at stake, but the decision was clearly a military manoeuvre to stop the spreading rebellion by denying logistic support for the anti-Sandinista guerrillas. Twelve thousand Indians subsequently followed the insurgents across the Rio Coco to refugee camps in Honduras.

There the Miskitos regrouped, recruited combatants from the camps, trained under former National Guardsmen and received sophisticated weapons from the Honduran military. By July they were ready to wage a well-co-ordinated and heavily armed military offensive that resulted in

numerous casualties on both sides. Today there are an estimated 2,000 trained and equipped Indian troops, with many more serving in reserve and logistic capacities.

### Disciplined machine

In interviews with Miskito leaders in Nicaragua, Honduras, Costa Rica, Washington, D.C., and Miami, these correspondents found an organized and disciplined political machine making calculated decisions. Whether talking in a refugee hotel in Honduras or a posh office in Washington, D.C., the men and women leaders interviewed were often university educated, politically astute and confident. Their organizations include roving ambassadors who monitor and attempt to influence international sentiment—especially in the United States—and representatives consistently attend human rights conferences around the world.

The Miskitos maintain training and supply camps both in Honduras and Nicaragua, and even recruit and meet clandestinely in Puerto Cabezas, the Sandinista military headquarters on the Atlantic coast. Their military structure includes men and women at all ranks, and is aided by a close relationship with Miskito Moravian pastors representing the area's principal religion. Combatants, almost like shadows, are able to move in and out of communities without attracting the attention of the army, giving them an advantage in both attacks and retreats. The Miskitos are responsible for most of the more than 500 recent war deaths in Nicaragua.

The Sandinistas, however, claim only that they are confronting a well disciplined and equipped fighting force identified as American-supported "Somocistas." Consequently few people in Nicaragua outside the Atlantic coast understand the extent of the Miskito challenge to the government.

## Reagan's 'Gulag' angers Latin American intellectuals

BOGOTA—A long-time political exile is talking: "I didn't appeal. That would have been repugnant to me as well as useless. As useless in fact as it would be for a Russian dissident to appeal against a sentence sending him to Siberia."

The speaker is Argentine-born Marta Traba, one of Latin America's most distinguished art critics, but she is not talking about the troubled state of her native land; for she fled Buenos Aires more than 20 years ago.

She is talking of the United States, from which she was recently expelled after living there since 1971.

Her identification with Russian dissidents is deliberate. "I make this comparison because I regard the repressive American apparatus—formed by the Immigration Service, the State Department and the CIA—as just as obscure and impenetrable as the Gulag Archipelago denounced by Solzhenitsyn."

I interviewed her in Bogota, where she lived in the 1960s when married to her first husband, a Colombian, and where she has just been granted citizenship by the government of President Belisario Betancur.

Her husband, whose case has attracted more attention and has been taken up by the US academic community, the liberal press in the US and Latin America, has decided to stay on in the US and fight.

Now in her mid-50s, Marta Traba is not the kind of woman to keep her lip buttoned on politics, no matter where she may live. Indeed she was expelled from Colombia in 1967 for criticizing the then growing power of the military.

She is a socialist who, like her husband, regards Sweden, not the Soviet Union, as a model socialist state. She supported the Cuban revolution but broke with Fidel Castro when he aligned his country with the Communist bloc.

Such political views hardly seem in violation of Article 28 of the US Immigration and Nationality Act under which foreigners can be thrown out for Communist Party membership, terrorism, or for having been involved in political assassination or trying to overthrow by force a legally constituted government.

"My classification under Article 28 was not accompanied by any evidence because, since it was a total lie, it simply couldn't be presented in that way," she says.

Her expulsion and the threatened expulsion hanging over her husband have confirmed to Marta Traba and other Latin American intellectuals what they have long suspected since Reagan came to power: that US authorities are engaged in a systematic crackdown on Latin residents in North America who are critical of US policy south of the Rio Grande, particularly in Central America.

It also emphasizes the wide gulf of opinion between the Reagan administration and the US academic community, which has rallied behind Angel Rama in his fight against expulsion.

## British public has growing doubts about its US ally

By Len Rockingham  
Star London Correspondent

LONDON—A question which has been often heard in Arab countries is now being asked with a new insistence in Britain, and is causing some concern to both the conservative government and the Americans. The question is simply this: can ordinary people trust the administration in Washington to keep its word?

In Britain, the issue of the trustworthiness of the Americans concerns, not peace proposals for the Middle East, but disarmament. A public opinion poll published this week revealed that a large majority of British voters (84 per cent) do not trust the American to keep their word in disarmament talks with the Russians and an even larger majority (91 per cent) do not believe the Americans display sound judgment.

The poll, published by the Sunday Times, also showed that a clear majority of British voters do not believe that American "Cruise" nuclear missiles should be sited in Britain and, since this poll was published only two days after a similar poll verdict in the Guardian newspaper, there is clearly a movement of opinion here which threatens the credibility of both Mrs. Thatcher and President Reagan on the arms issue, which both leaders have elevated into one of the main planks of their foreign policy.

The swing in opinion against Cruise comes at a crucial time for Mrs. Thatcher's government. There will almost certainly be a general election later this year, probably in June. Although her personal popularity with the electorate remains undiminished—despite the poor showing of the

economy and despite her success so far riding out criticism of her government's handling of the Falklands crisis following publication of the Franks report—yet the Cruise missile remains her Achilles' heel.

The British government, along with the West Germans, has agreed to the stationing of the Cruise missiles at two bases in southern England, as an answer to the Russian build-up of SS20 medium-range nuclear missiles in the western Soviet Union, which threaten western Europe. The Cruise missiles are due to go into place later this year and already the bases are being prepared for them.

But there have been growing demonstrations at the bases and over the Christmas holiday period, a large demonstration of women formed a human chain around the entire Greenham Common air base. Recent opinion polls have shown growing popular sympathy for the Greenham Common women, not only on the left wing but also among church groups and many other sections of British public opinion.

If anything, the problems this poses for President Reagan are more serious. He does not face an election this year and it can be argued that presidents of the United States do not need to pay much regard to peace demonstrations in other countries. And yet the credibility of President Reagan's disarmament posture depends upon the support of America's European allies. The Cruise and Pershing missiles were due to be stationed at American bases in four west European countries belonging to the Nato alliance, but already Holland has dropped out and Italy is very hesitant. That leaves just Britain and West Germany.

But the past week has seen some rapid changes in opinion inside West Germany. The country is now in the throes of an election campaign and, although Chancellor Helmut Kohl firmly supports the Reagan line, the number of influential doubters has been growing, as in Britain. These range from Herr Franz-Josef Strauss, the veteran right-winger, to the new leader of the opposition Social Democrats, Herr Hans-Jochen Vogel. Both of them had meetings with the Soviet foreign minister who was in Bonn last week and now both of them have asked the Americans to compromise in their disarmament negotiations with the Russians in Geneva.

This is likely to be the crux of the matter in the coming weeks. So far the Americans, at the Geneva disarmament talks on medium-range missiles, have stuck to what President Reagan calls the "Zero Option", which means that the Americans have said that they will not go ahead with the deployment of their planned 572 Cruise and Pershing missiles if the Russians will agree to remove all of the SS20 missiles on their side.

Increasingly, the "Zero Option" is seeming unrealistic to America's European allies and they are calling on President Reagan to go for a more workable compromise solution. The credibility of the US administration has not been helped by the revelation here that America's top disarmament negotiators did work out a compromise with the Russians and were promptly sacked by the president.

In Britain, Mrs. Thatcher did offer a hint in a television interview last week that even she has her doubts about the "Zero Option" and might be prepared to accept a lesser scaling-down of the missiles confronting each other across Europe.



The 'zero option' seems increasingly unrealistic

And the other European leader who was President Reagan's firmest supporter, namely Chancellor Helmut Schmidt, is no longer a leading contender in West German politics. So the Americans are worried, and worried to the extent that they have now mounted a \$ 65,000 campaign to win the hearts and minds of the European peoples to their handling of the disarmament talks. But with both Britain and West Germany facing elections, and with the socialist opposition parties in both countries opposing the cruise missiles, the Americans may have left it too late.

## China out to win black UN votes

By Richard Hall

LONDON (ONS)—DURING HIS month-long tour of Africa, Prime Minister Zhao Ziyang made it clear that China still regards itself as the natural leader of the Third World. He admitted frankly at a meeting with President Kaunda of Zambia that China is having its own economic troubles, but when these were mastered aid to Africa would be stepped up again.

Although Chinese involvement has declined from a peak in the mid-1970's Peking clearly does not intend to leave the superpowers to entrench themselves unchallenged. The black states have a combined population of far less than half China's own—but they control a third of the votes at the United Nations.

When Zhao started his tour, the People's Daily in Peking carried an editorial accusing the Soviet Union and the United States of trying to carve up Africa into spheres of influence.

It added: "As the international economic situation has continually worsened, Western coun-

tries have done their utmost to shift their economic crises on to the Third World." In speeches during his 10-nation tour, Zhao returned again and again to this theme.

He made all the expected condemnations of South African racism and aggression against neighbouring States, warning: "The situation in Namibia and South Africa is explosive. A new revolutionary storm is brewing."

His use of the word "revolutionary" stirred a few memories. It was in 1964 that Chou En-lai, an earlier Chinese Premier, declared that "Africa is ripe for revolution", during the course of a long, exploratory trip through the continent. That remark caused a certain nervousness among rulers with bourgeois backgrounds.

Nowadays the Chinese attitude to international affairs is much more pragmatic and black Africa does not suspect Zhao and his 55-strong entourage of being on record in recent years of providing aid without apparent strings.

Indeed, the purpose of some of the projects

has been rather hard to define. Their has been for instance, a great fondness for putting gigantic People's Palaces in various African cities. One of these, a concrete edifice on the top of a hill, stands floodlit every night in Yaounde, capital of Cameroon.

It was completed on schedule, handed over to the Government, then the Chinese simply left. The Cameroonians do not seem to have any very strong ideas of what to do with this imposing gift.

Much more practical, of course, was China's greatest aid project in Africa—the 1,162-mile railway from Dar es Salaam in Tanzania to the middle of Zambia. It took 2,500,000 Chinese and 50,000 Africans five years to build.

The railway was a tremendous feat of engineering. It was designed to give Zambia an outlet to the Indian Ocean that would free it from dependence on routes to the south through what was then Rhodesia (now Zimbabwe) and South Africa.

The line has had its operating troubles: during his visit to Zambia, Zhao promised Kaunda that China would send back its experts to help alleviate these. Tanzania and Zambia are also in debt on a grand scale to the Chinese, although there is every sign that these debts will be rescheduled in fraternal fashion. But the "great Uhuru Railway" stands as a permanent monument to Chinese friendship.

It seems unlikely that Peking will ever again mount a venture on such a scale in Africa. Its aid will be directed much more towards passing on expertise in intensive agricultural production. Even as Zhao wended his way down on the continent, a 50-man team was arriving in Liberia to help boost up that country's sugar output. The team is one of the first benefits of a state visit made to China last May by Liberia's Head of State, Commander-in-Chief Samuel Doe.

Doe is by no stretch of the imagination a Communist; indeed, his country uses the US dollar as its currency. Nor is President Mobutu of Zaïre, which has been propped up for two decades by US aid and the ministrations of the Central Intelligence Agency. But Premier Zhao went to Zaïre as well, and amiably wrote off a \$10 million debt from long ago, perhaps recognising that China



Zhao Ziyang

was unlikely to get the money anyway.

The highlight of Zhao's tour was his visit to Zimbabwe. It brought him closest to South Africa and gave him the chance to make some militant observations about the future of that country. The speeches made by Prime Minister Robert Mugabe stressed the warmth of feeling that Zimbabwe's ruling party has for China.

China supported Zanu, the guerrilla faction which is now in power. The Soviet Union backed Zapu, led by Joshua Nkomo—and came off second best.

The Chinese undoubtedly hope to retrieve their former position as a supporter of liberation movements. It looks now as though the Soviet Union has stolen a march on them in southern Africa, especially with its influence upon the Government of Angola, adjoining Namibia.

But Zhao has strong friends in the region, most influential leaders, Kaunda and Mugabe. One early result of the tour could be a sharp increase in the number of fighters from the liberation movements who go east for military training. In his speeches in Harare, Zhao made it clear the guerrilla success in Zimbabwe may be seen as a portent for China's part in the battle for South Africa.



Their railway building in Africa stands as a permanent monument to Chinese friendship



# CIA exposes Soviet realities

By Mark Frankland

MOSCOW (ONS) — A report by the American Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) on the Soviet economy that was released to the press this month caused problems for the writers of some newspaper headlines.

Here, after years of gloomy reporting on Soviet economic conditions by Western journalists, academics and governments, was a document that seemed to be saying something quite different. The Soviet economy was not collapsing: it was growing, and had been for decades. One British paper headlined its story "Soviet economy in good shape."

That at least served to counterbalance stories of an opposite sort predicting the disintegration of the Soviet economy. But had the author of that headline read Yuri Andropov's November speech, his first major statement as the new Soviet party leader, he would scarcely have used such words.

Broadly what is wrong with the Soviet economy is that it is growing, but not fast enough or always in the right way. This may seem unfair criticism from the West, where some countries are managing only zero or occasionally even minus growth. But this is what worries the Soviet leaders, and to understand why is to understand the nature of the Soviet economic problem.

The country enjoyed an obvious increase of prosperity during much of the Brezhnev era — "obvious" because a good deal of it was enjoyed by the consumer. In 1965 (the year after Khrushchev's fall) only a quarter of Soviet families had television sets and only one in 10 refrigerators. By 1978 those figures had

increased respectively to 82 and 78 per cent. The Soviet diet became healthier. People ate more meat (57 kilos a head against 41), more fruit and less potatoes and bread.

Grain production increased considerably. It averaged an annual 130 million tons between 1961-5, the period of the last Khrushchev five-year plan, and 205 million tons in the 10th five-year plan that ended in 1980.

But the rate of growth throughout this period was getting smaller and smaller. Industrial output increased by 8.5 per cent a year between 1965 and 1970. By last year this increase had shrunk to 2.8 per cent. The decrease was more dramatic for agriculture. The government has not even published the results of the last two harvests, so disappointing were they.

But figures often disguise the real state of affairs. The chief economic message of the Brezhnev regime was that the time had come to switch the economy from extensive to intensive production. Quality was to count more than quantity.

This has not proved easy. It is clear that a good deal of what is produced in any one year may represent gains of questionable value. For example, what is the real worth of a new tractor or agricultural machine of less than first-class quality and which, because of lack of spare parts or bad maintenance or both, has only a short working life?

There is also the problem of popular attitudes to the economy. Although there has been a marked improvement in the standard

of living by comparison with 20 years ago, this does not necessarily console either that growing number of Soviet citizens who know that life is better in most of East, let alone West Europe, nor a younger generation that has grown up taking refrigerators and TVs for granted.

The consumers of the world have moved on to other things — videos, personal transistor radios, home computers — which excite people here but are not usually obtainable.

Academician Nikolai Inozemisev, until his death last year head of the Institute of World Economic and International Relations in Moscow and a senior adviser to the Kremlin, summed up the problems of the 1980s like this:

"We will have to solve simultaneously such large-scale tasks as further raising the standard of living of the people, continuously increasing the economic and scientific and technical might of the country, reliably ensuring its security."

This would be all the harder, he wrote, because of a "reduction in the growth of labour resources, the increasing cost of exploiting the east and the north, expenditure on preserving the environment and on the infrastructure, above all transport and communications, and the necessity for the more rapid renewal of productive funds" (i.e. modernising industry).

These are not the problems of an economy that is facing collapse, but nor do they suggest that the economy is in a shape to please the Soviet leadership.

## Iran spends \$ 3.8bn

TEHRAN (OPECNA) — Around \$ 3.8 billion has been earmarked to buy plant, machinery and raw materials for improving agriculture and expanding industry in Iran.

Commerce Minister Habibollah Asgari said that the country's exports had shown "remarkable growth" as a result of simplification of government procedures.

Crude exports had increased by 60 per cent in September compared with the same month last year.

The minister said imports of non-industrial goods had been minimal, as the govern-

ment wanted to encourage domestic production.

He admitted there were some "minor problems" in shipping goods such as fertilisers, wheat, barley and sugar. At present, cargo ships were unloading 800,000 tons of steel products and raw materials at the southern port of Bandar Abbas.

He added that during the current Iranian year, 4 million tons of iron had been imported at a cost of \$1.3 billion. Most of Iran's transactions were with "friendly, non-aligned Third World countries."

## Indonesia goes into the red

JAKARTA (Agencies) — With a trade deficit of \$ 819 million in the current fiscal year, Indonesia is likely to be "in the red" for the first time since 1974.

President Soeharto told a plenary session of the House of Representatives that the deficit was caused by a steep 15.1 per cent fall in exports.

The country's exports in 1982-83 are estimated to total \$ 20 billion compared to the previous year's figure of \$ 23.6 billion.

The main reason for the drop is the 17 per cent shrinkage in the value of oil exports to \$16.1 billion.

Non-oil exports are expected to drop by 6.4 per cent to 3.9 billion dollars.

Soeharto said the decline in oil exports came in the wake of the oil glut and the Opec production quota arrangement, under which Indonesia was allocated a daily output of 1.3 million b/d against its normal rate of 1.6 million b/d.

However, some minor export commodities have recorded increases. Tea exports rose by 53.2 per cent to \$ 9 million in the second quarter of 1982, while livestock exports went up by 34 per cent to \$ 479.5 million.

## A puzzle that computers cannot solve

Many public officials and economists are betting that the new-age, high-tech industries will fill the employment vacuum left by the re-industrialization of America. But some recent studies suggest that high-tech firms may actually be adding to employment problems, while only the service sector, with its low-paid, high-turnover jobs is generating any net gain in employment.

By Thomas Brom  
Pacific News Service

MILPITAS (California) — City officials in this industrial community on the southern edge of the San Francisco Bay have pinned all hopes for their future on "Time magazine's 'Man of the Year' for 1982—the computer. Like politicians, economists and some labour leaders all across "post-industrial" America, they confidently predict that the super-hero micro-chip of 1983 will provide an answer for the record unemployment of 1982.

"We're not worried," said Milpitas city manager Jim Connolly when the Ford Motor Company recently announced it would close its last assembly plant on the West Coast here next spring. "There's an historic boom going on right now in high technology, and this city is getting its share in both corporate expansions and new start-ups. We've got 7,000 new jobs in the Oak Creek industrial park, and three more high tech parks under construction."

By converting salt marsh to manicured high-tech developments, Milpitas and neighbouring Fremont are attracting the corporate spill-over from the crowded "Silicon Valley" of Santa Clara County. The two cities are among the only places in the Bay Area where houses can still be bought for under \$100,000, making them attractive to skilled electronics workers.

For a handful of metropolitan areas — San Francisco, Phoenix, Portland, Denver, Houston and Boston among them — the much-

hyped transition from heavy manufacturing to high technology appears to be working. But behind the public confidence, cracks are appearing in the facade of the "high-tech solution" that may leave millions of Americans disillusioned and permanently jobless.

Maybe Connolly's not worried, but we are," says Charlie Jeszek, research director for the California Labour Federation. "There's a recession in Silicon Valley just like every place else. The auto companies aren't providing enough retraining for our members, and these high-tech outfits don't like hiring union workers. We just had our eighth suicide in Fremont. I think there is a big hole in the safety net."

With no clear industrial policy emerging from either political party, the free market transition from an industrial to an information-based economy was bound to be a rough one. Trade unions in the basic industries have taken much of the impact head-on. They have lost members and operating funds, and seen their political influence fade across the country. Ex-UAW and steelworker rank-and-file must now compete for jobs with younger workers at half the wage and benefit package enjoyed in heavy industry.

### No retraining

But union losses are not the only consequence of the high technology romance.

The Congressional Budget Office estimates microelectronics technology could cost the United States 3 million jobs by the end of the decade — 15 per cent of the manufacturing work force — and seven million by the year 2000. According to the Bureau of Labour Statistics, 300,000 laid-off workers in the auto industry alone will never be rehired.

The regional competition for high-tech jobs is fierce, not only pitting states against states but countries against countries. The eventual fallout could be an even greater regional economic disparity than now exists. Milpitas, for instance, may well be saved by the 1983 "Man of the Year" but De-



Computer advances are not generating as many jobs as had been hoped

The high-technology industry itself is changing, laying off workers as it introduces new, automated production techniques, and consolidating into larger and larger units. In business jargon, the industry is "maturing" — but at great consequence to the job market.

Few of these or other factors have been confronted adequately by the "Atari Democrats," those high-tech optimists who believe that government support for new and often small information industries is a direct investment in jobs. In fact, a recent MIT study by David Birch found that although high-technology industries showed strong employment growth, manufacturing firms, in general, in his model actually generated no net new jobs. The service sector was responsible for virtually all of the employment growth during the 1972-76 period, increasing its share of total non-farm employment from 67.9 per cent to 70.6 per cent.

In California, Professor Michael Teitz at UC Berkeley's department of city and regional

planning used unemployment insurance data to reach remarkably similar conclusions. Teitz found that more than 90 per cent of the net new jobs in the young, small firms (which generated two-thirds of all new jobs) were in the non-manufacturing sector.

### 'We need jobs'

Despite the lack of substantial new hires in high-tech industries, the California Employment Development Department and General Motors contributed \$10 million for a retraining programme in Fremont when GM closed its plant earlier this year. Jeszek said the state labour federation worked hard to pass a bill last August providing \$55 million each year to retrain industrial workers. "But unfortunately the legislature thinks retraining is the answer to all our problems," he says. "We need jobs."

More than two dozen Bay Area electronics companies laid off workers this year, and many others reduced work weeks and froze new hires.

## A quiet week

By Mamdouh El-Ghaly

MARKET ACTIVITY was comparatively quiet this week as a result of the constant drop in the prices of most shares. There were no big contracts during the week, as there have been for the last five weeks.

From 18 to 24 January no more than 397,000 shares were handled at a market value of JD 2,235 million divided among 1,277 contracts. A drop of 37.1 per cent compared to last week.

The daily mean of handling came to JD 247,000. Deviation from this mean reached 22 per cent or 4.4 per cent of total transactions: A drop of 32.4 points compared to last week.

This percentage is still considered high, and indicates cautiously on the part of dealers in the market. The very high deviation recorded last week was the result of several large individual deals concluded during that week.

The banks sector still led in volume of trading this week but with little advantage over the industry sector. Banks occupied 39 per cent of total transactions, a drop of 23 points compared to last week. Five banks out of 15 occupied 65.1 per cent of the sector's trading or 25.4 per cent of the market total.

The Bank of Jordan came first, accounting for 19 per cent of trading in the sector or 7.4 per cent of the total. The Arab Bank followed with 13.6 per cent of the sector or 5.3 per cent of the total. Cairo-Amman Bank came third, with 13.5 per cent of the sector or 5.3 per cent of the total, and the Islamic Bank came fourth, representing 10.1 per cent of the sector's transactions or 3.9 per cent of the total. In last place came the Jordan-Kuwait Bank, which accounted for 5.9 per cent of business in the sector or 3.5 per cent of the overall market total.

The industry sector accounted for 37.8 per cent of total transactions. An increase of 17.3 points compared to last week.

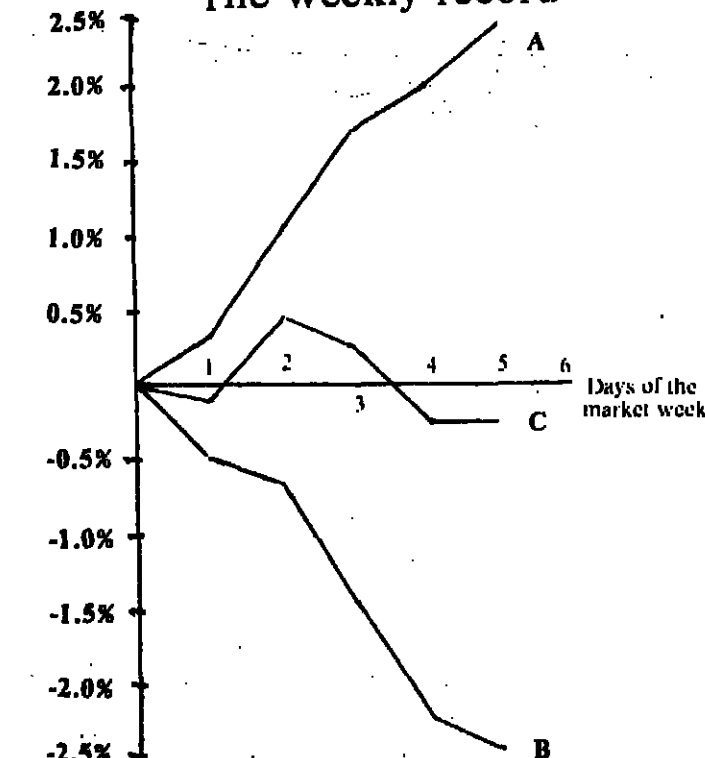
Five out of 27 industrial companies occupied 60.4 per cent of the sector's transactions or 23.3 per cent of the total. The National Steel Company represented 18.6 per cent of the sector or 7.2 per cent of the total; the Jordan Petroleum Refinery Company came second, with 12.5 per cent of the sector or 4.8 per cent of the total. Jordanian Industrial Investments Company came third representing 11.7 per cent of the sector or 4.5 per cent of the total, and Arab Pharmaceutical Industry Company ranked fourth with 9 per cent of the sector or 3.5 per cent of the market total. Tile and Gypsum Industry Company came in last, with trading amounting to 8.6 per cent of the sector's transactions or 3.3 per cent of the total.

In the services sector business came to 15.6 per cent of the market, an increase of 5.2 points compared to last week. Three services companies out of 12 occupied 56.4 per cent of the sector's transactions or 8.8 per cent of the total. Those companies were:

The insurance sector came last, representing 6.7 per cent of total transactions, a slight increase of 0.5 points compared to last week. In this sector two companies out of 10 occupied 42.9 per cent of the sector's transactions or 2.9 per cent of the total. The Jordan-French Insurance Company represented 29.9 per cent of the sector's transactions or 2 per cent of the total, followed by the Jordan Insurance Company with 13 per cent of the sector or 0.9 per cent of the total.

During this week the shares of 64 companies were handled. Of these 27 companies showed an increase in share prices. The most important were Yarmouk Insurance, opening at JD 1.850 and closing at JD 2.140; Arab Paper Company, opening at JD 0.740 and closing at JD 0.800; Middle East Hotel, opening at JD 0.750 and closing at JD 0.800; Jordan Dairy Company, opening at JD 1.060 and closing at JD 1.130; and Al-Nisr Exchange Company opening at JD 1.550 and closing at JD 1.650.

### The weekly record



A. Shares showing an overall price increase  
B. Shares showing a price decrease  
C. The mean record figure

27 JANUARY 1983

Construction to start soon

## Fund lends \$10m for power plant

By Star Staff Writer

AMMAN — The Opec Fund for International Development will lend Jordan \$10 million to help finance the JD 109 million Aqaba thermal power station project, the Jordan News Agency Petra reported this week.

International financing agencies have already lent or pledged a total of \$144 million to the Jordan Electricity Authority (JEA) project, after a series of meetings leading up to a pledging session in Amman in June 1982. They were led by the World Bank, which is contributing \$35 million, and the Kuwait-based Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development, with a loan of \$17.4 million.

Also involved in the financing of the station are the Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development, West Germany's Kreditanstalt fuer Wiederaufbau, the Iraqi External Development Fund, the Saudi Fund for Development and the Islamic Development Bank. The national development lending funds of Italy, France and the UK have also been involved in financing discussions.

Materials and services from each country represented at the meetings are specified in at least one contract of the whole project, which has two parts: seawater-cooled power station about 19 kilometres south of Aqaba, and a 320-kilometre transmission line to Amman. The plant is to produce 1,340 megawatts when it is completed around the year 2000.

**Transmission contracts due**  
In a World Bank estimate made in July 1982, total foreign exchange costs were set at \$258 million. Of this, \$39 million was expected to come from multilateral len-

ders, \$76 million from bilateral aid and \$92 million in export development and commercial credits.

Contracts are expected to be awarded in March for the transmission line, whose cost is estimated at around JD 19 million. Middle East Economic Digest (MEED) magazine quoted a spokesman for the consultants, the UK's Preece, Cardew and Rider, as saying there had been a "good response" when bids were opened on 1 December 1982. He did not, however, reveal the number of bidders.

Preece will submit a full report in mid-February on the power line project, which is due for completion in 1985.

The 400-kilovolt, double-circuit line will run the full distance to Amman without any intervening substations. Most of it will be built across desert. Tenders were invited for four contracts: 1. supply of conductors and earthwire; 2. supply of insulators and fittings; 3. supply of towers and erection of the whole system, or 4. a full turnkey contract comprising all the work.

### No announcement

Work was due to start early this year on construction of the power station itself, but no announcement has yet been made of the contractor chosen. Five Japanese consortia were formed in bid for the contract, on which the consultant is the US firm Charles T. Main International.

The plant will produce 1,340 megawatts from three 130-MW and four 320-MW generators. The work was offered in four contracts: for the turbine island, boiler island, switchyard island and fuel oil tank island.

## Lufthansa wins airline of the year award

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — Air Transport World one of the major aviation magazines, has selected Lufthansa German airlines for its airline of the year award for 1982.

In its latest issue Air Transport World states that the willingness to invest in new technology and the ability to apply it efficiently to advance the state of the art of air transport is but one element in the success of an airline. It continues "in the case of Lufthansa we feel that airline has been so good at it that this is reason alone to salute Luf-

thansa as our airline of the year."

Lufthansa has been an outstanding airline over a long period the editorial staff says and is well known for its efficient and courteous passenger service and efficient and reliable cargo service. Lufthansa was chosen for its consistent high quality and the benefits it has brought to the travelling public in general and the Federal Republic of Germany in particular.

Air Transport World points out that an example of this Lufthansa quality is found in its dedication to advanced

technology and its always being a pioneer in terms of fleet programmes. Lufthansa launched the Boeing 737 programme, the Boeing 747 freighter programme and was the co-launcher of the Airbus industries 310 programme.

Heinz Ruhnau, chairman of the executive board of Lufthansa accepted the award in Washington. He thanked the publishers in the name of 34,200 Lufthansa personnel and expressed appreciation for the very positive assessment of the airline by the magazine's editorial staff of specialists.

## Baker predicts big budget cuts

WASHINGTON (KUNA) — Senate Majority Leader Howard Baker said Sunday that he thought the Senate would cut "on the plus side of \$15 billion" out of the new Defence budget, or almost double the reduction defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger announced two weeks ago.

Mr. Baker, interviewed on NBC television's "Meet the Press" said. He had told administration officials that the mood in Congress, and particularly in the Senate, was to bite more deeply than Mr. Weinberger wanted into the Pentagon budget and to stretch out purchases as a way of getting a handle on the government's huge budget deficit.

President Reagan will present the budget for the fiscal year starting 1 October to Congress on 31 January.

Mr. Baker, who earlier announced that he would not seek re-election in 1984, reiterated that he could see no circumstances under which he could not support the president's re-election in 1984.

Meanwhile, Treasury Secretary Donald Regan told an interviewer on CBS's "Face the Nation" that an increase of 40 per cent to 50 per cent in the resources of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) "is desirable."

The 40-50 per cent increase in quotas or deposits put up by members countries was in the range speculated at last week's meeting of the Group of Ten, which consists of leading industrial nations.

Members of the group agreed last

week to support a "substantial increase" in quotas at a meeting of the IMF policy board in Washington next month to prevent potential defaults by Third World countries on their international debt.

Mr. Regan also saw a "decent recovery" from the recession in the US this year, with economy slower in the

first half but "very stimulative" in the last two quarters.

He saw interest rates continuing to decline this year, falling "another couple of points at least on the prime" rate. He said there could be a slight upturn in rates in 1984 as the economy picks up.



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# Time for a change to help a sick world

By Morteza Abtahi

VIENNA—The prevailing assumption that curbing inflation is the prerequisite for gaining sustained economic growth and increased job opportunities looks more and more flawed as many countries begin a new year in a desperate plight.

In the light of unequivocal evidence that the world economic recession is not abating, arguments in favour of inflation are winning a wider audience.

Austerity programmes, coupled with restrictive monetarist policies aimed at curbing the price-wage spiral, have been launched, and vigorously pursued, in the major industrial nations, with the consequences dramatically reflecting the harshness of the measures taken.

They have produced the sharpest global economic contraction since the 1930s, with soaring unemployment, pervasive deflationary tendencies, an incipient dismantling of the international trading system and an acute danger of a collapse of the world's financial and banking systems.

In 1982, the United States economy, considered to be the powerful locomotive needed to pull the free-market economies out of recession, shrank by 1.8 per cent in real terms compared with an already non-buoyant previous year.

Exports down  
Moreover, this meagre performance was achieved with a \$110.7 billion government budget deficit representing 3.7 per cent of GNP - and an unprecedented unemployment rate of 10.8 per cent. The US administration expects the deficit to rise to a staggering \$185-190 billion in the current year.

The IMF has just published its monthly statis-



tical report showing that between January and October 1982, the value of industrial countries exports totalled \$961.8 billion down 4.1 per cent from the \$1,003.4 billion achieved in the same period a year earlier.

Export earnings of the oil-exporting developing countries declined by a substantial 18.6 per cent in the first ten months of last year, to \$185.1 billion from 227.4 billion in 1981.

The industrial countries' imports fell by 5.4 per cent to \$1,017.5 billion below the 1981 figure.

Other symptoms of the malaise are just as grave. Last December, in the ten common Market countries alone, 11.5 million people were on the dole, with unemployment averaging 10.5 per cent. And as the EEC enters its fourth year of recession, some observers predict that by 1985 more than 15 million Europeans will be out of work.

According to the half-yearly report of the 24-nation Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), overall growth in the four key European economies - West Germany, France, Britain and Italy - is projected to reach a negligible 0.5 per cent. This is yet another downward revision of its forecasts for the GNP performances of its members this year.

## Protection

The EEC's Finance Ministers tellingly rejected as "too optimistic." The European Commission's own estimate of a mere one per cent growth in 1983.

The OECD report concluded that "There is little evidence to suggest that this mood of pessimism will dissipate soon." More significantly, in a rare acknowledgement of the necessity for a policy shift towards preventing depression rather than fighting inflation, it commented, "The longer slow growth continues in Europe, the greater the risk that it will become self-perpetuating."

Proof that this process is well under way was amply provided by European leaders who, at their recent Copenhagen summit, unanimously supported proposals to protect fledgling industries in Europe from external competition as a result of their limited scope to tackle their economic problems domestically.

This new lurch towards protectionism, while possibly yielding some short-lived relief, will undoubtedly compound the global crisis with a further shrinkage in the volume of world trade.

Moreover, restrictive commercial practices are fundamentally inflationary and, manifestly

counter productive to the monetary concepts deployed.

The deflationary argument includes calls for an "acceptable" level of economic growth to counteract the pronounced slowdown in investment, as particularly demonstrated in the energy sector, where last year large projects were postponed or simply abandoned on a large scale.

## Bank warning

Capital outlays, if not undertaken at adequate levels in an economically viable environment, will inevitably lead to future supply shortages and consequently to demand-driven price spirals, particularly in the wake of a targeted recovery.

The Bank of England's latest quarterly bulletin also contains warnings over the far-reaching effects of the prolonged sluggishness in economic activity. It argues that with a continuation of the current economic climate, both industrial countries and the Third World exporters of raw materials will be driven to cut back on their excess production facilities, which are no longer feasible to maintain.

These reductions will similarly impede a lengthy acceleration in business activity where, inevitably, inflationary price reactions will ensue. Recent evidence clearly suggests that in the current recession slack output capacities are often scrapped or converted to other purposes as losses in various industries mount, with little prospect of improvement. These structural changes are, as a rule, not sufficiently reflected in the relevant statistics of capacity utilization.

The Bank of England also correctly dismisses as "self-defeating" the gains achieved in reducing the rate of inflation resulting from primary produce and commodity prices depressed below their production costs.

## Reassessment needed

The former managing director of the IMF, the Dutch banker Hendrikus Johannes Witteveen, in a recent speech in New York, advocated a basic reassessment of policy objectives.

He said, "the danger that recession and disinflation will go over into deflation and lead to world depression has become so great that the time has come for some shift in policy priorities."

He argued that the US Federal Reserve's monetary stance had been much more restrictive than originally intended, mainly because of the "currency substitution effects" of high dollar interest rates which had attracted huge volumes of foreign

Testing the health of the nation. Still ailing or showing some signs of recovery? President Reagan has lost a lot of support because of his economic policy. Monetarist measures have brought down inflation but escalated unemployment. Hopes are high for a recovery later this year, but economists in the US are divided in their assessment of the strength of any upsurge.

capital. This, in turn, had led to misreadings of the monetary aggregates which were so distorted by the external infusion.

He conceded that "the fact that these recessionary influences now coincide with severe risks of an international banking crisis bringing exceptionally serious dangers to the world economy."

The case made in favour of stimulative measures to revive the sagging world economy has made some inroads into the doctrinaire insensitivity of some policymakers in the industrial nations, in spite of their protestations to the contrary. These countries are still traumatized by the 1973 experience when excessive economic expansion ignited double future inflation.

## More disruptive

However, the nature and severity of the present slump is inherently distinct from previous contractions and its wider global implications incomparably more disruptive than at any time since the Great Depression.

As an example, in 1973, income-price controls then in effect were abruptly removed in a bid to reactivate the US economy, which not only provided a vigorous stimulus but also rekindled the inflationary spiral.

At present, in the absence of these controls, the cycle cannot conceivably be repeated. The overprudence of monetary disciplinarians in citing past recurrences of inflationary expectations in therefore not wholly justified.

The revisions so far introduced to monetary and fiscal policies have not assumed the critical mass necessary to catalyze a robust and sustained economic recovery in 1983 and beyond. Yet only a revival of this magnitude can reverse the momentum of a catastrophic trend towards economic disintegration.

Opener

## Viewpoint

# Sovereignty over East Jerusalem

By Ya'acoub Jaber

NO ARAB, Muslim or Christian, will agree to a Middle East solution that keeps East Jerusalem under Israeli control. The future of the Holy City in any forthcoming negotiations will be an issue of great importance. It will determine, to a large extent, the success or failure of the projected peace process. It will be a thorny issue consuming substantial effort, but it must find a satisfactory resolution.

Now that the region might be heading to what could be a turning point in the agonizing search for a just and durable peace, the time is right to mention a few facts concerning Jerusalem and why its eastern part should return to Arab sovereignty.

First of all, East Jerusalem was captured in the 1967 war along with the rest of the West Bank.

What applies to any West Bank city, town or village (in terms of an eventual accord) that necessarily brings an end to occupation) automatically applies to East Jerusalem. Security Council Resolution 242, which the United States had endorsed and used as the basis for a campaign to bring about the long-promised solution, prohibits "the acquisition of territory by force." East Jerusalem is a territory captured by sheer force.

Secondly, during more than 15 years of occupation, the Israeli authorities have proved to be unqualified to safeguard Muslim and Christian holy places. Al-Aqsa Mosque, Islam's third holiest shrine, was deliberately set on fire in 1969 by a fanatic who was called a "lunatic" in an attempt to clear him and his abettors encouraged him of guilt.

Then, in 1982, there was the indiscriminate shooting of Muslim worshippers by another "lunatic" whose fate as a self-confessed murderer has never been made known to the outside world.

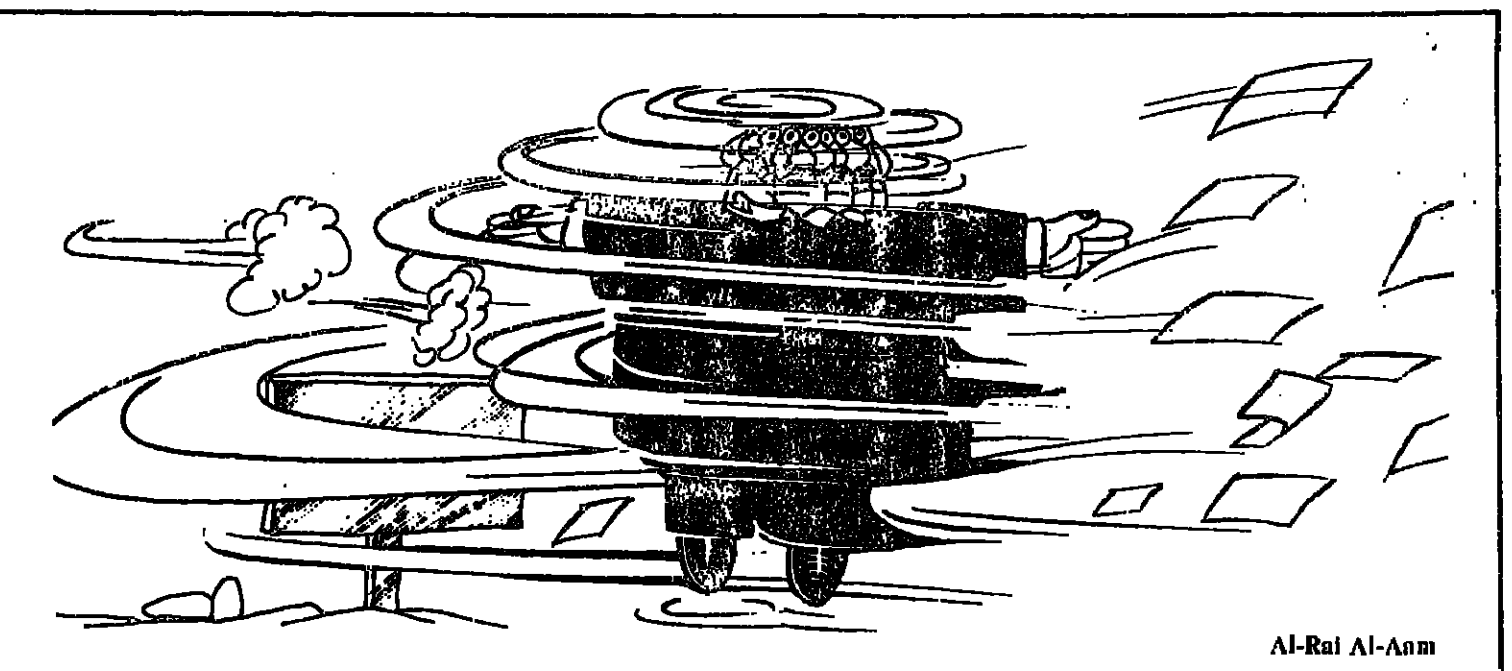
Churches in Jerusalem have not escaped premeditated sacrifice and repeated attacks. The holy places will remain in danger as long as they are under Israeli control.

Years of frantic excavation which endangered the foundations of Al-Aqsa Mosque has uncovered no trace of a Jewish temple.

The truth is that the Holy City is part of the Muslim and Christian spiritual history and heritage, and should be permanently preserved as such within a comprehensive settlement allowing free access to all believers.

The Qatari English-language newspaper Gulf Times calls for collective Arab effort to enable Lebanon's government to reinstate its sovereignty over all Lebanese national soil, adding that the Israeli invasion of Lebanon is a serious threat to every Arab country.

The paper stresses the need for unity among all Lebanese groups, because without such unity the country cannot restore stability and liberate its land from Israeli occupation.



## Arab Editorial: Opinion

THE LEBANESE-Israeli negotiations and the American stance towards them continue to be a major topic in this week's Arab newspaper editorials. Other themes tackled by the press include the meeting between PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat and three members of the Israeli Peace, Now movement, as well as efforts to end the Iraq-Iran war.

Al-Raya newspaper of Qatar writes that in his attempt to bring about a quick settlement in Lebanon, US envoy Philip Habib finds himself cornered between Israeli intransigence and blackmail, and Lebanon's rejection of Israel's terms, which is being given weak Arab support.

It adds that Mr. Habib wants a quick Lebanese settlement that could allow him a permit to enter into the Middle East minefield and try to defuse it. But Washington should realize that there are serious limits, beginning with the rights of sovereignty and independence of Arab states and ending with insistence on the Palestinian people's right to establish their state.

In Abu Dhabi, two newspapers warn of the dangers to which Lebanon might be exposed as a result of the negotiations. Al-Itihad daily writes that the Israeli behaviour which imposed the Camp David agreements on Egypt could be repeated now, but with different results in terms of serious repercussions on future events.

It explains that another Camp David in Lebanon will have dangerous consequences, because Israel in such a case would try to consecrate the sectarian division of Lebanon instead of containing it.

"Such an outcome would also expose other Arab countries to major hazards in the foreseeable future", Al-Itihad writes.

Warning against similar consequences if Israel manages to impose its terms on Lebanon, Al-Fajr newspaper writes that it is time for the current Arab activity of political consultations to crystallise into resolutions patching up all differences, and convincing every Arab regime that its strategic depth and solid supporters are its fellow Arab states.

The Qatari English-language newspaper Gulf Times calls for collective Arab effort to enable Lebanon's government to reinstate its sovereignty over all Lebanese national soil, adding that the Israeli invasion of Lebanon is a serious threat to every Arab country.

The paper stresses the need for unity among all Lebanese groups, because without such unity the country cannot restore stability and liberate its land from Israeli occupation.

In Cairo, the daily newspaper

Al-Akharb urges the United States to take a firm stand against Israel, adding that Washington as a full partner in the Lebanese-Israeli negotiations should shoulder its responsibility of bringing an end to the occupation of Lebanon.

It then warns that if the United States maintains its policy of leniency towards Israel's outrageous behaviour, the consequences will not be in its interest, and certainly not in the interest of Israel.

On Chairman Arafat's meeting with the three Israeli figures, the Kuwaiti newspaper Al-Watan says the meeting should not be viewed out of its real proportion, but also should not be underestimated. The meeting, the paper explains, is not a reconciliation or a new page in the relationship between the murderer and the victim; it is one of the fruits of the heroic Palestinian steadfastness in Beirut.

"The meeting affirms to the Israeli party that the real solution is in the hands of the Palestinian party, and all attempts to overlook that party have been foiled," Al-Watan declares. It adds that the meeting signals a growing trend among the Israelis towards the realization that the Palestinians' rights cannot be denied, and the minimum requirements of these rights are self-determination and statehood.

If this is the case, Ad-Dustour adds, then how will the United States tackle the question of settlements in the occupied territories, and how will it force Israel to withdraw?

Commenting on His Majesty King Hussein's Gulf tour, Al-Rai new-

The Amman daily newspaper Ad-Dustour comments on the US policy towards Israel, saying that Washington reacted angrily at the Polish authorities' imposition of martial law on their country, but declines to impose similar economic sanctions on Israel - which expropriates Arab land and continues building settlements with US money.

The paper goes on to say that the United States not only refrains from punishing Israel, but also uses its prestige as a superpower to protect it in international forums.

Turning to Lebanon, the paper suggests that the United States has failed to honour its commitments there. It says that despite US officials' repeated expressions of concern for peace, the Israeli army is still in Lebanon and Israel has developed the "peace for Galilee" operation into a much bigger one. It now demands early-warning stations, trade relations and a special status in South Lebanon.

"The importance of Jordan's role is reflected in the light of these facts," Al-Rai writes. "King Hussein's current efforts are designed to enable the Arabs to win the battle of time, to rescue the land and its people before Israel completes its notorious schemes."

It concludes by calling on all Arab states to contribute effectively to this rescue operation, in order to ensure its success.



The Iron Lady, Margaret Thatcher, another convinced monetarist, marches on undeterred by high unemployment and falling sterling. But inflation is down.



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## Washington's crucial test in Lebanon

AMERICAN MIDDLE EAST envoy Mr. Philip Habib has flown back to Washington empty-handed after a fruitless endeavour with Israeli leaders about Lebanon. Before coming to the area again Mr. Habib declared, after a White House meeting with President Ronald Reagan, that the aim of trip was to accelerate. The Lebanese-Israeli negotiations which were stumbling over impossible Israeli demands.

The strenuous efforts he made yielded one procedural result: an agreement on an agenda which, nevertheless, included topics that satisfied Israel's demands.

The failure of Mr. Habib's mission is ominous in many ways. It comes at a very delicate stage at which the United States is required to prove its credibility to the Middle East and demonstrate its ability to influence Israel.

Needless to say that if Israel succeeded in imposing humiliating terms on Lebanon and managed to overcome Washington's objections, the projected process for a comprehensive Middle East peace settlement would be severely undermined. US promises would be trusted no longer.

How could anyone believe that the United States could end 15-year old occupation of the West Bank and Gaza if it failed to solve a much-less contentious issue and terminate the eight-month old occupation of Lebanon?

Israel's mounting intransigence over Lebanon has been matched by a large-scale, anti-peace campaign in the West Bank clearly designed to abort the new American effort. The frantic rush to build more settlements has been coupled with an escalating harassment of West Bank Palestinians, including a return to the notorious practice of forcing foreign lecturers in Arab universities to sign a document to support

the PLO or face expulsion. All this is Israel's blatant response to president Reagan's September peace proposals.

In the face of this provocative Israeli behaviour, the American Administration has done nothing beyond issuing verbal statements from time to time, prompting fears that the gap between the word and the deed continues to exist despite the growing need for a drastic change in the US Middle East approach.

The United States needs to take practical steps to convince us that it is indeed serious about developing the peace drive which President Reagan initiated in his September address.

We are not trying to suggest how the United States should act; but it seems obvious that Lebanon constitutes a crucial test for US ability to influence the course of future events in the region. To get things moving, America needs to use its enormous leverage to bring a quick end to Israel's occupation of Lebanon.

What is more, this must be done without bestowing political or military gains upon the government of Menachem Begin, making it more capable of resisting the promised US effort for a lasting settlement.

Once the United States enable Lebanon to free itself from Israeli occupation under its own national terms, it then can proceed with maximum effectiveness to try to solve the whole middle East problem.

It is only in this sensible and ordered means that the pledges given by the United States can begin to make sense to the people of the region.



zaki

**QUOTATIONS**

"Stand firm in your refusal to remain conscious during algebra. In real life, I assure you there is no such thing as algebra." - Fran Lebowitz, American writer, in her advice to children.

...

"I learned long ago that being Lewis Carroll was infinitely more exciting than being Alice." - Joyce Carol Oates, American novelist.

...

"After me - there's me!" - Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher.

...

"The upturn did not turn up." - Prime Minister Pierre Mauroy, on the French economy.

...

"Argentines do not deserve democracy." - Jorge Luis Borges, Argentine novelist.

## Look at the facts and not the myths of Palestine

Sir, I read with interest what Bishop Elyah Khoury has written in The Jerusalem Star under the heading "Politicians who believe in a myth". I would like to add some comments on the second part of the delegation member's statement where she says "Palestinians do not have a historical right to Palestine since since they are originally from Greece."

This statement shows a gross distortion and utter ignorance of the history of Palestine; and it seems to me that the delegation member preferred to be ignorant in line with the English poet's saying: "Where ignorance is bliss, 'tis folly to be wise". But let us mention a few historical facts and not myths about the origin of the Palestinians.

### Not by race or origin

Our salvation lies in our respect for one another. In our vigilance and in our unity. No wonder the Israelis are refusing to sit with us to negotiate our rights in our properties.

It is a fact that 90% of the citizens of Israel are Jews by conversion and not

by race or origin. This fact should be declared to the whole world. Entreaties, requests, accusations, and threats will never lead to an equitable settlement of our problem.

We should change our habits of thinking and our mental attitudes if we are to solve our cardinal problem either peacefully or militarily.

George N. Salg  
P.O. Box 996  
Amman

name incidentally the name of Palestine was subsequently derived) the Phoenicians and by other early tribes. But the earliest known inhabitants of Palestine were the Canaanites who gave to our country Palestine its earliest name as the "land of Canaan" as the Bible itself witnesses; and according to history it was the Canaanites who founded Jerusalem.

The Palestinians are the original inhabitants of Palestine as they are the descendants of the above-mentioned peoples who lived there from time immemorial.

In his book "Palestine and International Law" Henry Cattan, relying on historians of great reputation, says at page 7: "The Muslim Arab conquest of Palestine in AD 637 was not the starting point of their occupation. The Arabs are pre-Islamic people. They lived in Palestine and in other parts of the Middle East before the advent of Islam."

"In fact the number of the invaders at the time of the Muslim Arab conquest in the 7th century was small and they were assimilated by the indigen-

ous inhabitants. Professor Maxime Rodinson points out that the Arab population of Palestine was native in all the senses of that word."

Mr. Cattan adds, "There were infusions of other racial elements into the Palestinian stock, mainly from the Greeks, the Romans, the Muslim Arabs and the Crusaders. But this Palestinian stock, which comprises both Muslims and Christians, continued to constitute the main element of the population until the majority of the original inhabitants of Palestine was displaced by the Israelis in 1948."

Moshe Munihim, a well-known Jewish personality who refused to live in Israel, stated in his book "The Evidence of Judaism in our Times" at page 18 that "The Palestinian Arab of today, then, is a descendant of the Philistines, the Canaanites and other early tribes, and of the Greeks, Romans, Arabs, Crusaders, Mongols and Turks."

As can be clearly seen from the above, the Palestinians were not imported (so to speak) from Greece or other countries as they were the ear-

liest inhabitants of Palestine, although they were infusions from the races of the different conquerors of Palestine.

On the contrary, it was the Jews who were the outsiders and intruders as they came from Egypt and invaded Palestine (or the land of Canaan as it was then known) in or around 1200 BC although they did not succeed in occupying the whole of Palestine.

From AD 132, however, the Jews as a people had no longer any connection with or existence in Palestine. Their conquest of Palestine was thus only an episode in the annals of that country. Moreover, the great majority of the Jews living in Palestine are not of Jewish origin who can claim any so-called historic right to Palestine as they were Khazars (from Russia) converted to Judaism as mentioned by a distinguished British Jewish writer, Arthur Koestler, in his book "The Thirteenth Tribe."

As can be clearly seen from the above, the Palestinians were not imported (so to speak) from Greece or other countries as they were the ear-

Pascal B. Karmy  
P.O. Box 9284  
Amman

## Kamel Abu Jaber



## The necessity for joint action

Greetings to Jerusalem!

INDIVIDUALS may forget events but the collective memory of a people rarely forgets the happenings of its past. History, whether oral or written, is the remembered memory of a people. Sometimes it gets distorted or out of focus; often it is manipulated, yet given enough time clarity and focus always return.

The Palestine Liberation Organization was founded in 1964 in Jerusalem with the intent of keeping the Palestine issue always alive and perhaps one day to participate in the liberation of Palestine. At that time no one imagined that the whole job was to be done only by the PLO or that the Arab world would limit its support to political and sometimes economic backing alone. Almost twenty years have passed and Palestine, all of Palestine, is still in bondage and liberation is less than a dream.

Since then the Arab world witnessed great events, none of them it would seem to its advantage. Even the great increase in oil prices, supposedly an economic weapon that in fact was no more than a bubble, was of little effect in the course of events.

The 1967 war was soon followed by further setbacks, each more momentous than the one it followed. It would seem that 1967 was the watershed in modern Arab history. It is as if someone or some force has stolen Arab resolution and determination. The Israeli-Egyptian war of attrition mysteriously subsided and the Arab world began its rapid downward slide into the present.

The downward slide was accompanied by continued Arab scaling down of their demands. From the total demand for the liberation of Palestine to the timid acceptance of the 1970 Rogers Plan owners of the right and the land are suing for peace. A peace that Israel contemptuously refuses to accept. From liberation to our present attempts at salvaging whatever land the Israelis might withdraw from under pressure from the United States and world public opinion.

On the other hand Israel has been scaling up its intransigence, demands and arrogance. Israel does not even pretend to go through the mere motion of asking for peace, not even for public propaganda and consumption. It is obvious that Mr. Begin wants all of Palestine and also some of the lands beyond. Prior to 1967 this was obvious to those who cared to read Zionist literature: the literature of both so-called left and "right" of the Israeli political scene.

Following the war of 1973, the Rabat conference, in a masterpiece act of evading responsibility, placed the whole burden of the liberation of Palestine on the shoulders of the PLO. Only Jordan protested at the decision but finally reluctantly accepted it.

Is the liberation of Palestine the responsibility of the Palestinians alone? Suppose, just suppose, that through an act of utter desperation and madness the PLO decides to relinquish that responsibility. What would the Arab world do? Only Jordan seems to be aware of the issues of stake and thus is willing, even eager to share the responsibility with the Palestinians. Meanwhile most of the other Arab leadership seem to wish the Palestine problem to simply go away, disappear. On the other hand many Arab armchair revolutionaries continue in their day-dreaming as if Israel does not exist. What is to be done?

The so-called revolutionaries speak of liberation but do not speak of methodology. The foggy rhetoric transcends the bonds of academic or philosophic dimensions. It is now a matter of survival that has been made the more apparent following the 1982 invasion and occupation of Lebanon and the total inefficiency of the Arab response.

Following the dispersal of its forces from Lebanon it would be difficult for the PLO to continue to shoulder the responsibility placed upon it by the 1974 Rabat Conference. History, if it has a head, must be shaking it in wonderment at how the tables have turned. It must also wonder whether any other people have the same capacity for self-delusion and mental acrobatics. Lamentations aside, for they too do not seem to have any effect, the present situation necessitates the full support of efforts towards Palestinian-Jordanian concerted action.

Perhaps, and under the present Arab circumstances, it is right to concentrate on salvaging whatever land can be salvaged. Perhaps the future? Who knows what it may bring, though a reminder contained in local sayings seems to be in order. The saying goes 'no one can best plough the land like its own local bulls'. The local children of their land of Palestine and Jordan, with patience, organization and time, will one day do the job.

Pascal B. Karmy  
P.O. Box 9284  
Amman

## Arms control Reagan's defence posture a question of global thinking

Considering his staunch conservative convictions, Ronald Reagan has shown himself, in good American political tradition, to be pretty pragmatic. Yet on one issue he appears to be inflexible: the rapid expansion of the military budget.

Were it not for his flexibility in other matters, one might ascribe it to his anti-Communist convictions. Many people here and abroad think just that. But there are reasons to think otherwise.

In a recent interview with former Secretary of State Alexander Haig, the West German weekly, Der Spiegel, asked: "Has the struggle against Communism not become an obsession of this administration?"

Haig answered negatively, adding that the administration is "marked by electoral ways of doing things, which allows them to act in a populist fashion." Translated, all they want is to win at the polls and in Congress.

Now the president, once quite unenthusiastic about nuclear arms accords, has chimed in to second the views of the chief US negotiator at the Geneva arms talks, Edward Rowley, that there is a good chance we shall have some arms control accord with the Soviets in 1983.

How does all this square with the president's views on the defence budget?

### Trivial factors

One interpretation can be ruled out, namely that sometime in 1983 the president will compromise on the defence budget, as he has on taxes. Reagan means what he says, and his staff is apparently most worried about the prospect that he could get tarred with the brush of inconsistency.

A more convincing interpretation flows from the recent history of US foreign and defence policy. Earl C. Ravenal, a former Defence Department official wrote a paper in April,

President Reagan's inflexibility on his defence budget has ascribed by many critics to his staunch anti-Communism. But it may be interpreted also as a rejection of pressures in some quarters to curtail America's global military alliances which, together with nuclear deterrence, has formed the twin pillars of national defence strategy for decades. Franz Schurmann, professor of history and sociology at the University of California at Berkeley, looks at the issues involved.

1982, calling for a substantial cut in the defence budget. But unlike Congressional critics who argue for cuts on grounds of wastefulness and duplication, Ravenal argues that these are fairly trivial factors. Rather, he continues, the budget is huge because of the traditional principles on which our national security policy is based.

That policy rests on two mighty pillars: deterrence and alliances. Deterrence means defence against the Soviet nuclear threat. Alliance means our global commitments. It is the alliances, Ravenal argues, that cost the US taxpayer vast amounts of money, particularly in Europe.

His conclusion: We should radically scale down our alliances, particularly in Europe, and rest our national security policy essentially on the single pillar of deterrence.

President Reagan disagrees flatly, favouring the more global military role implied by alliances. He has just endorsed that very aspect of the military build-up in a prominently billed media event, the recommissioning of the battleship New Jersey, which underscored the massive naval expansion which Nixon initiated and Ford and Carter carried forward.

- PNS

## Nuclear freeze movement gains momentum in US

By Samuel H. Day Jr.

ASHLAND-A newly enacted local ordinance designed to protect this quiet, cultured town's way of life has the whole community talking and is causing a ripple well beyond the verdant valleys of southern Oregon.

Effective with the start of the new year, it will be against the law to manufacture or position any nuclear weapon, to produce any nuclear energy, or to store any nuclear wastes in the city of Ashland. Violators will face a \$500 fine or sixty days in jail or both.

The city is a "nuclear free zone" -- the third in the United States to declare itself as such since this new ramification of the European peace movement crossed the Atlantic last spring.

Garrett Park, a Maryland suburb of Washington, D.C., was the first to take the plunge last May. Sykesville, a Baltimore suburb, followed a month later. Ashland's decision came by a 55 per cent majority vote in the November general election.

Since Ashland doesn't harbour any nuclear weapons or nuclear power plants and isn't likely to attract any what is the point of it? That was the question many Ashlanders asked when Don Skinner, a carpenter, and other organizers showed up last

summer with more than enough signatures to put the measure on the November ballot.

"This proposal is like Ashland deciding it does not want to become a deep-water port for oceangoing shipping," snorted Ashland's newspaper, The Daily Tidings, in an editorial entitled, "Don't dock ships on Main Street."

That was exactly the point, replied John Stahmer in a letter to the editor: "Don't dock ships on Main Street." Especially Trident submarines and other such ghastly instruments of death. Component parts for Trident subs and missiles are manufactured in many towns and small cities -- like Ashland -- all across the country. Nuclear weapons are not made in nuclear weapons development centres, but only finally assembled or deployed there. They are, in fact, made in Everytown, U.S.A.

In the end, the trumping victory of the Nuclear Free Zone forces prompted one campaign leader, Carl Eggers, to predict, "The concept may catch the imagination of more and more cities, states, and countries until we have reduced the number of nu-

clearized zones to just two, Moscow and Washington, D.C. Perhaps then they will get the message."

That's precisely what nuclear free zone organizers elsewhere in the country are counting on. One group, Nuclear Free America, headquartered in Baltimore, has established a national clearing house for nuclear free zones. Another national organization, Nuke-watch, based in Madison, Wisc., is concentrating its efforts in the upper Midwest.

Nuclear free zone organizers are under no illusions about the largely symbolic character of their actions. But they point to recent experience in Britain and Western Europe, where declarations of nuclear free zones by hundreds of municipal councils and other local government authorities has lent powerful momentum to the European nuclear disarmament movement. And they don't discount the power of symbols.

"Was the Boston Tea Party frivolous?" asks Mayor Lloyd Hell of Sykesville. "That was symbolic, wasn't it?...I refuse to separate the symbolic from what's actually happening out there."

- PNS

## books

### Season of Migration—

## Mustafa Said: the tragedy overtakes

This week Henry Matar concludes his review of Al-Tayyib Salih's novel *The Season of Migration to the North*. The first part of the review appeared in *The Jerusalem Star* on 20 January.

WITHIN THE short span of eleven years in England, Mustafa Said had acquired his Ph. D., had read widely Western philosophy, literature, science and had been admitted into the elite circles of the English universities.

But he was devil-ridden by a thirst for revenge which he could not possibly quench. The Western civilization and culture he voluptuously had partaken of left him oscillating in the balance—with no stable roots to hold to but also, as an individual, tragically conscious of his devilish strength.

Wherever he went, he was idolised and especially so by the girls who could not resist the captivating appeal of this Othello of the East. But within himself, Mustafa Said felt a biting vacuum conditioned by the cruel severance he had undergone from his folk, homeland and native culture.

To fill this vacuum, he chose to wreak vengeance upon those girls who loved him, but who belonged to the foreign society that had caused his estrangement. Over-conscious of his individual ability, he became a master hunter whose prey never escaped being trapped by his magic spell of oriental intelligence.

"My bedroom," he remarks "is a graveyard looking over a park. Its rosy curtains have been carefully chosen; its carpets, warm and appealing inviting; its bed, wide and furnished with pillows stuffed with ostrich feathers; and

its electric lights shaded red, purple and blue hues. Yes, my bedroom was like a hospital operation room smelling of eastern sharp perfumes, chemically medicated liquors, ointments, powders and pills."

And to this bedroom, the spider lured whatever fly he could catch in his web. He had driven at least three infatuated women to commit suicide: Anne Hammond, Sheila Greenwood and Isabella Seymour, and had killed the fourth, Jane Morris his wife, most abominably and violently.

After eleven years' stay in London, he stood in the defendant's box at the Old Bailey. The prosecutor, Sir Arthur Higgins, had formerly taught Mustafa Said Law at Oxford. Professor Maxwell Caine, the lawyer for the defence, was Said's former tutor and fought to save him from the death-sentence.

"Honourable members of the jury," his voice rang "Mustafa Said is a noble man whose mind fully absorbed Western Civilization; but whose heart has been crushed by the very thing he has absorbed. These two girls (Anne Hammond and Sheila Greenwood) have not been killed by Mustafa Said, but by the germ of a chronic disease they caught at thousand years ago."

Anne, Sheila, and Isabella were easy game; but the last one, Jane Morris, proved less susceptible. Well-trained in the tricks of the game, Jane held Mustafa Said at bay for a period of three years, always tantalizing him with her nude charms; but constantly holding herself adamant against offering herself to him.

Even after she had consented to marry him, and even after the legally-held wedding ceremony, she resumed her cutting attitude and broke crying loud and bitterly.

Mustafa Said, however, did not give up the chase. For within himself he had resolved to finish her, just to kill the germ that caused all this disease. When matters between the two had reached an impossible passé and climax, the tension was resolved of its own accord. It seemed that the two had unconsciously reached an agreement to stop the illusion. She was willing, and he was resolutely determined. At the epitome of sexual excitement, he plunged a dagger into her breast and the tragedy had won the day.

For all he had done, Mustafa Said, the spoiled protégé of the West, received only an imprisonment sentence for seven years. He was released and he decided to go back home.

Back in the Sudan, he settled in the heart of the rural, primitive country. He bought a house, and a piece of land, got married and had two sons. Everybody looked respectfully up for his advice and guidance, which he readily offered.

But poor man, he never could feel at ease with himself. The stranger, the fallacy, the unreality that he was against the primitive simplicity and peaceful content around him left him no peace of mind. Seizing the opportunity of the Nile overflow, he left home and was never found again.

Yet, despite his disappearance, the germ he had carried was left behind. His widow had taken in the germ which infected her whole being with a domineering sense of individuality. When an old neighbour, Wild-el-Rhy, yes, with her father's consent to marry her the betrothed widow went so far as to dare to break the code of relationships then prevalent in the village, and refused to share her bed with the newly imposed husband.

And when he tried to approach her against her will, she stood in his way defiantly. He, however, managed to force her down, and in his agony of self-humiliation bit her breast hard. She quickly reacted, reached for a knife and killed him violently; then stabbed herself.

Blood was shed, the peace of the village was broken, evil ran amok and the destructive force shook the foundation of everything. The germ of the Western disease had managed to disrupt the community.

The dramatic presentation of the main tragic theme of Al-Tayyib Salih's novel and the suspense and tension it arouses are enhanced by a number of techniques which the author proves to be a master of.

Mention has already been made of the non-sequential narration of events. Flash back and jumps from one event to another are used to spotlight the event concerned as in a stage-like manner.

Alongside, and parallel to the main theme, runs an undercurrent theme of exposing the new Western-culture imbued leaders of Africa to ridicule and satire. And all these techniques are given more force and effect by a style that is peculiarly the author's own creation and mirror of mind.

He is a master at depicting a whole situation with a few strokes of the pen, which like a painting brush seems to draw colours and shades.

Here is an example of the author's description of England as it first appears to the eyes of a new comer "I felt and right is a greyish hue of greenness. Saxon villages rise on the ridges of the hills. The very roofs of the houses are strikingly red, hunched like cows

The Department of Libraries, Documentation and National Archives (DLNNA) has received the following books:

Antar and Abba: a Bedouine romance. Rewritten and arranged by Diana Richmond. London, Quartet Books, 1978.

Stories about Antar, a sixth-century hero, poet and lover, and his bride Abba have been circulating for some fourteen hundred years. Diana Richmond here presents a selection of tales which tell of Antar's struggle as a black slave to win his rightful place in the tribe, and of his love for his cousin Abba.

The message of the tales is that nobility lies in action more than in lineage and that it is worth while to fight against prejudice in order to marry the one you love.

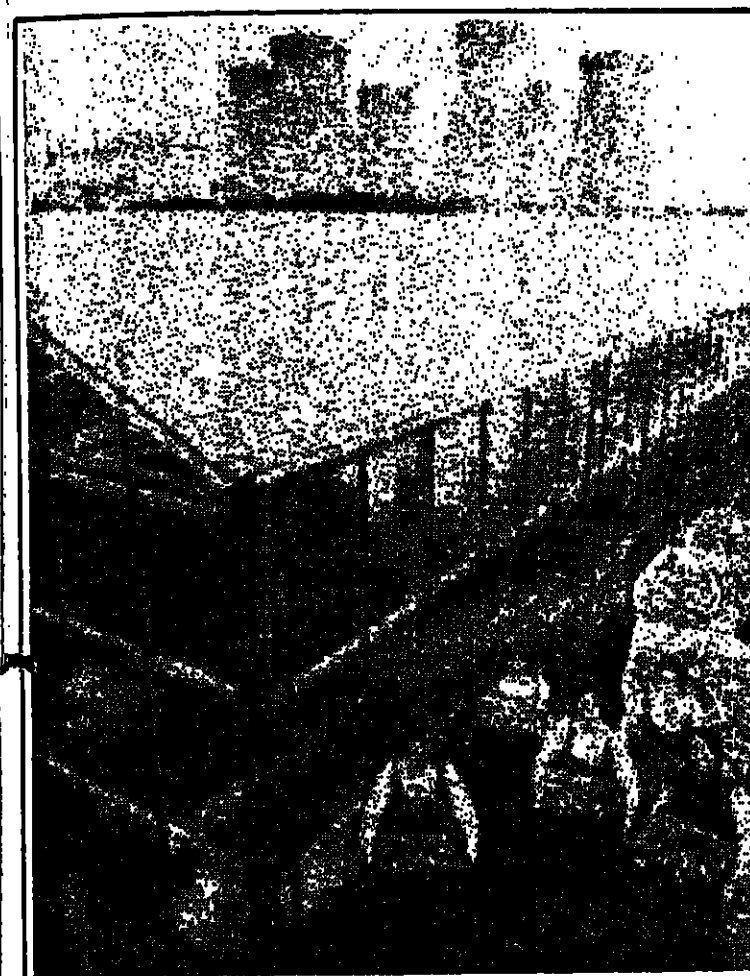
Gilmour, David. *Dispossessed: the ordeal of the Palestinians, 1917-1980*. London, Shipwreck and Jackson, 1980.

Harrison, William. *English language policy survey of Jordan: a case study in language planning*. Arlington, Virginia, Centre for Applied Linguistics, 1978.

Kuburs, Art. *The economic consequences of the Camp David agreements*. Beirut Institute for Palestine Studies, 1981.

Said, Edward W. *Orientalism*. London, Routledge and Kegan Paul, 1978.

The public is welcome to consult these and other works at the DLNNA library. The library is located on the fourth floor of the National Building, Third Circle, but visitors must open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. every day except Friday.



## Using waste energy

FOR MORE than two years, in an experimental project at Drax in northeast England, waste heat from a power station has been used to grow tomatoes in a special greenhouse complex. Initial results are so encouraging that the project is likely to provide a blueprint for others. This assessment of alternative energy sources also covers pumped storage hydro-electricity, wind turbines, wave power devices, solar energy and geothermal energy.

## The moon connection

By Sam Pike

IT used to be fashionable to deride the quaint practice of planting seeds by the phases of the moon as a throw back to medieval superstition, but no longer.

Scientists have found that plants and seeds respond vigorously to biological rhythms that coincide with the rhythms of the moon.

Now that the old wives have been vindicated, it's interesting to speculate how they knew about moon phase planting to begin with. They saw the moon rolling around the sky above their gardens, waxing and waning, and the connections were apparent.

It was passed along, added to and refined until the following rules of moon phase gardening were laid down.

Plant or transplant leafy and fruit-

ing crops during the first two weeks of the waxing moon.

Plant root crops the first week of the waning moon.

Do not plant anything during the last week of the final quarter, but do weed, prune and clean up the garden.

Avoid planting on days of the full moon, new moon, and first and last quarters.

Scientists have found that seeds have some biological control over their functions, such as water uptake and germination and that these follow lunar cycles. Water uptake peaked at every quarter moon and was especially marked approaching full moon, during experiments. Also moon light may have unsuspected effects on plants.

(WGT)

## Gulf states join genetics scheme

SAUDI ARABIA and Kuwait are among 35 countries expected to sign an agreement in Kuwait establishing an International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology (ICGEB).

Other countries include India, Brazil and Yugoslavia.

The location and the guiding principles of the centre's structure and operation are to be decided next month in Belgrade at a week-long meeting of senior government officials.

World's leading Genetic engineers including Dr. Har Gobind Khorana, Prof. Saran Nangar, Dr. Nand Chakrabarty, Dr. Ahmed Bukhar and Herbert Boyer and representatives of 12 inter-governmental organisations, are expected to attend.

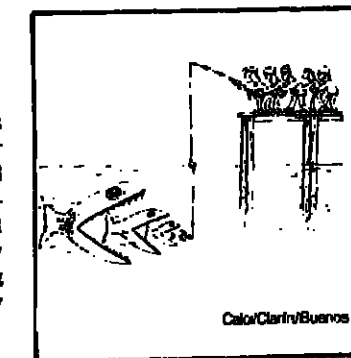
Informed sources say the estimated \$10m centre will serve different development interests of various countries.

The development of inexpensive alcohol-based fuel in Brazil, preservation of meat in Argentina, development of special fodder types in Kuwait and Saudi Arabia and development of better food products in India — all these are among research and development areas to be covered by the centre.

Belgium, Brazil, Sweden and Canada have reportedly offered to host the centre by providing the capital cost and the first five years' operational expenses.

The centre is sponsored by the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (Unido).

(WGT)



## How to get ahead with solar power



SOLAR POWER is the shape of things to come, and there could hardly be a more striking token of its versatility than this radio in a cap made by a firm in Hanover, West Germany. Solar power collected in the sun visor is said to power medium wave radio reception for 36 hours; in bad weather a conventional battery is then needed. Will it knock the Walkman into a cocked hat? May be not, but it's sure to capture young people's fancy. (WGT)

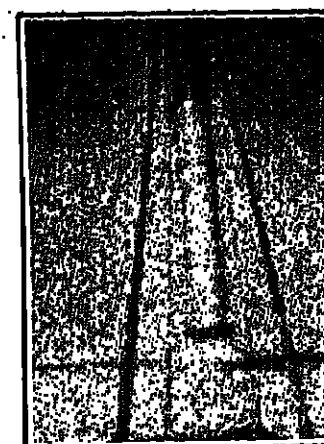
## Current in a tunnel

A GERMAN experimental power station in Manzanera in southern Spain functions without any fuel whatsoever. Special foils, stretched a few metres above the ground, let the rays of the sun pass through but retain the sun's heat.

The warm air expands, streams at a speed of up to fifty kilometres per hour through a tunnel where it drives a turbine. The generator delivers up to 100 kilowatts of electricity which is fed in the Spanish network.

Because the heat remains for a long time under the foils the power station can operate well into the late evening.

(Scala)



The tunnel with its foil roof

## Will's secret war

WILLIAM WHARTON'S exceptional new novel is told in the first person by a painter named Will Knott, who recalls how he spent the last Christmas of the Second World War in a chateau in the Ardennes Forest. From the comfort of his home in California, he remembers the terrible discomforts of that time, when he was a squad leader, at the improbable age of 19.

In those days, Will Knott was known to his army buddies as Won't. The other men in his platoon were all intelligent and gifted. But Miller wrote poetry and made up crossword puzzles and Vance Wilkins (called Mother because of his mania for tidying up after his messy mates) devised bridge hands of a tortuous complexity.

For most of *A Midnight Clear* these young soldiers are shown killing boredom rather than Germans. The real horrors are all taking place elsewhere.

On their way to the chateau, the squad see two things that perplex and intrigue them. First, Mother

shoots at a German soldier who, it transpires, is already dead. His corpse has been popped up against a tree.

Then they discover two more corpses in the snow—an American and a German have been arranged somehow to give the impression that they are dancing, hand in hand. This second vision marks the beginning of the terrifying story. Won't has to tell three decades later in a state resembling tranquility.

It's a story that begins quietly enough. The squad take over the chateau for reconnaissance purposes and find themselves living in conditions that are halfway civilised.

Some paintings have been stored in the attic and the sight of these charms entrances Sergeant Knott who has never really looked at a work of art before. The experience decides his future for him.

The soldiers play cardless cards and chess and they talk. Paul Mundy, alias Father makes a no-swearing rule that his fellows find it difficult to obey. Paul is remembered as a devout Catholic who was so devout, in fact, that he would not take orders because of his very occasional need to do something the Church regards as a sin.

The joy, which involves a brief

**A Midnight Clear**  
by William Wharton  
(Cape, £7.50)

liaison with some German soldiers who wish to surrender, is soon over. A simple plan to capture the friendly Germans goes horribly and convincingly wrong. *A Midnight Clear* takes off on a new dimension at that point and a funny and observant book immediately becomes sad and grave and deeply moving.

## The early genius ...

THE Real Soldier, a line drawing from Heath Robinson's second children's book *Bill The Minder* (1912) which, in the pots of jam on the soldier's back and the toast-fork clipped to his bear-skin, already betrays Robinson's irrepressible urge to invent amazing contraptions.—from

HEATH ROBINSON

a biography by John Lewis, whose comprehensive selection of illustrations, a few in colour, serves to remind us what a superbly talented artist and draughtsman he was.



## The shifted sands

AN Arab picking up either of these books might register more than curiosity.

Dame Freya Stark's photographs in *RIVERS OF TIME* (William Blackwood, £25) and those collected by Andrew Wheatcroft for his *ARABIA AND THE GULF IN ORIGINAL PHOTOGRAPHS, 1880-1950* (Kegan Paul, £15) show the harsh, colourful world of the Arabs before Aladdin rubbed the oil lamp.

Dame Freya's photographs—taken, since 1933, with a 35 mm. Leica—show a people of character and dignity

among whom the treacherous Arab could roam confident of her safety and their hospitality.

Strange and remote, in even more stark scenes photographed and programmed for it becomes apparent that admirable qualities were exposed by the demands of living in a sandy, sand-rack and sun. What Dame Freya described as "the quick-eyed people" does not look quite the same now as behind the smoke of a window of a fatigued, conditioned, and a little more complicated for him, too. (London Express Serial)

## Americans still resist going metric

By Carl Hartman

WASHINGTON (AP)—The government agency created to educate Americans about the metric system is going out off business. And Americans continue to use the traditional Anglo-Saxon system of measure. It isn't that anyone decided not to make the conversion to metrics, but no one decided to make the switch either.

The Agency—the U.S. Metric Board—says in a final report that Americans are confused about whether their government wants them to convert systems.

"Some still believe the country is being forced to convert, while others are impatient with the slowness of progress."

Americans still commonly refer to inches, feet and miles and to pounds and quarts—not metres, kilograms or litres. Some adjustments have been

made to dual measures, but they are by no means extensive.

Successive presidents have refused to promote anything but voluntary conversion. Americans familiar with the issue tend to have strong opinions, and politicians are reluctant to antagonize them.

According to board members "no nation has ever converted without making it mandatory or setting a date for conversion. We are alone in a world of metric measurement. Eventually the U.S. must conform because a progressive world will demand it."

In some parts of the country newspapers, often sponsored by banks, give temperatures in Celsius as well as Fahrenheit figures. So do the popular television weathermen. Packages on drug store or supermarket shelves often carry quantities in grams but most shops do not pay attention

Actually, the U.S. is already using metric standard (since 1893 the yard has been legally defined as a fraction of a metre, and an inch is now exactly 2.54 centimetres). The pound is, legally, 0.453, 523, 7 kilograms. Though the average citizen hardly notices, the metric system has become increasingly used. In the 1940's, pharmacists began using it, and the U.S. Army and Marine Corps. In the 1960's it was the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

"With the big surge in imports of autos from Japan, West Germany, Italy and France, auto mechanics had to use more and more tools based on the metric system. Other industries have followed as they saw a way of increasing their sales abroad. The data processing industry is the most recent to start planning conversion."

Under the patronage of His Excellency the Minister of Culture and Youth

the Italian Embassy

In co-operation with the Department of Culture and Arts

Presents a recital by

Duo Paganini

Fernando Antonelli on violin and Francesco Biraighi on guitar

Sunday, 30 January, 7:30 p.m.

at the Jordan Intercontinental Hotel



## Oscar Wilde at the British Council

## A trivial comedy for serious people

SINCE ITS first production in 1895 Oscar Wilde's "The Importance of Being Earnest" has been a favourite of English theatregoers.

On 3 and 4 February, a group of Amman's amateur thespians be sharing their pleasure in the play with Amman audiences when they present a full-scale production of the work. The cast for the play is drawn mainly from the administrative and teaching staff of the British Council, and all are enthusiastic amateur actors.

Wilde described his work as "a trivial comedy for serious people" but Martin Savage, assistant representative at the British Council, feels there is more to it than that.

The play pokes gentle fun at a society preoccupied with the question of money and who has it; but along the way, Wilde treated some essentially serious subjects. In late Victorian England many young people were beginning to challenge traditional family views of love, marriage and importance of money (though it is clear that none of Wilde's young people are about to take any major risks with the future).

## Engagement problems

The play revolves around the engagement problems of two couples, Algernon and Cecily and Jack and Gwendolyn. At various times both

Jack and Algernon come to be known as Earnest and many hilarious complications ensue.

The work is being produced in modern dress, as the players feel that period dress can be a barrier for audience who are not native English speakers. They hope that this will help to bring out the modernity of the play and the relevance of many of Wilde's ideas to life in both England and Jordan.

The decision to stage the play is in line with the British Council's plan to give prominence to dramatic performances during the coming year. The Amman players and the Amman Playreaders have established a precedent for English language theatre in Amman, and the Council staff believe that audiences everywhere enjoy the immediacy of a live production.

## Visiting groups

The players hope to stage another production later in the year, but before that there are several very promising visiting groups on the way.

In March the London Shakespeare Group will present Twelfth Night at the new Royal Cultural Centre. They will be followed in April, on the same stage, by the Newcastle Black Light Theatre Company. The latter company works with a darkened stage and the images are illuminated by

special lights. They work mainly for children, using puppets and special costumes.

In May there will be another local production, in the form of a special Maytime concert party.

Late March sees a return visit by the folk rock group Magna Carta. They will be here as part of the EEC festival, which will run from 28 March until the end of April and will feature cultural contributions from all European Community countries.

The Council's programme is not, of course, confined to live theatre and concerts. Films coming up in the next few months include the thriller "Caught on a Train", "A Midsummer Night's Dream", "Evil Under the Sun" and "Nuts in May".

## Exhibition

An exhibition to look out for is that of British Theatre posters produced by the group Ex 3 Posters, who specialize in handmade, silk screen work.

They have explored various techniques and produced an interesting but easily made and inexpensive range of posters. Their work is particularly relevant to Jordan with the opening of the new cultural centre, which is sure to generate a demand for posters and other publicity material.

## Museum joins twentieth century

By Graeme Heathcote

LONDON A SILVER TRAY, the America, turn-of-the-century English brass fire irons and a 1905 German washbowl, have joined the treasures of civilization in the British Museum.

The famous repository of scholarship and art is updating, though cautiously so far, its seven modest glass cases in a small room, its so-called modern gallery.

The objects in room 48 are hardly likely to make visitors goggle. They cannot compare with the Egyptian mummy cases, the Assyrian colossi, the Chinese porcelain, the Greek vases. But the electro-plated kettle, brass lamp, cutlery, coffee pot and a couple of tea racks, chosen for their tasteful design as good workmanship, are a sign that the British Museum is breaking new ground.

One official, buttonholed on preview day by the new collection, said wryly: "this is not quite a step forward. There are people here who believe that 'modern' starts with the end of the Roman occupation (of Britain), in 43 A.D."

As if to underline the point, the modern gallery has been firmly placed in M1A, the Department of Medieval and Later Antiquities.

Michael Collins, assistant keeper in the department who is in charge of the modern gallery, said in an interview that he has been buying for it for two and a half years, discreetly at auction at home and abroad and from private sellers.

"What we are showing represents 90 per cent of what we've got. In even 50 years we will be very grateful that we bought things before they became too expensive," Collins said.

The Department of Prints and Drawings seized the opportunity to show that it has the same idea, showing to the press some of its acquisitions dating from 1890 to the present day.

Frances Carey, assistant keeper there, said they have been buying for five years and starting out with "virtually no 20th-century material of any description."

Collins said it had been a "struggle" to persuade certain important people that the museum "must represent the modern age—our century should buy into modern artefacts."

He said that when the "buy modern" list began the museum had nothing later than 1915. He said that when the "buy modern" list began the museum had nothing later than 1915.



## Students with a difference

By Catherine Hadidi

Special to the Star

Amman's Intermediate University College has a group of students who never come to class or even set foot in the college. But far from being unhappy with this situation, their teachers are delighted with their progress.

The students are a group of 46 prisoners at present serving sentences in the Mahatta Rehabilitation Centre. And, rather than the students going to college, the college goes to the students.

Literacy programmes, typing, Arabic and English and preparatory and Tawjihi classes have been available in Jordan's prisons for some time. Many students achieved great success in these classes, one prisoner was among the top ten Tawjihi students in Jordan, and this led to the idea of making higher education available as well.

Mrs. Huda Nasser of the Ministry of Social Development talked to the Jerusalem Star about the programme.

She said work had begun on the project in 1977 and it had required close co-operation between the Ministries of Education, Social Security and Social Development to bring it to fruition. She said that without the particular support of Minister of Education Dr. Sa'ad Al-Tal it would never have been possible.

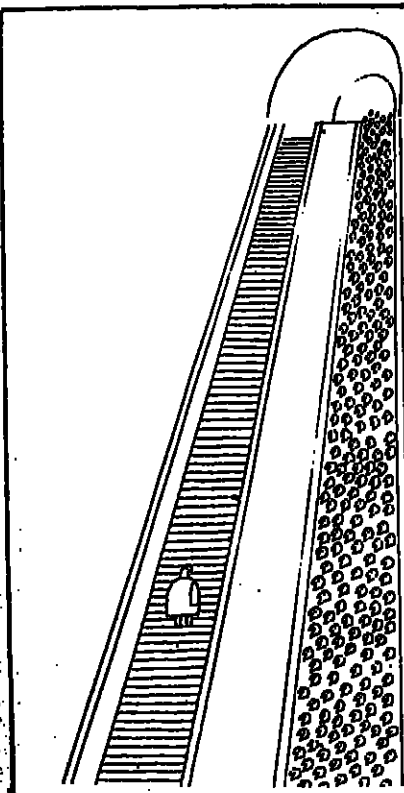
The first students were enrolled for the 1982/83 academic year. As facilities are limited the choice of subject was put to the vote and all those wishing to participate agreed that accountancy was a reasonable choice. Prisoners in other prisons, who had required Tawjihi qualifications were given the chance to transfer to Mahatta in order to join the programme.

Lecturers from the college now go to the prison to give their lectures and the first semester has produced excellent results, often better than those obtained by regular students.

All those involved in the programme believe that it will help prisoners to regain their self-respect and give them useful skills for the time when they return to society. If a prisoner finishes his prison term before he has completed his course he is guaranteed a place at the college so that he can continue his studies.

At present the college is accepting a reduced fee of JD 170 per year rather than the normal JD 270 for each student. For those prisoners whose families cannot afford the fees the ministry of education covers expenses. The ministry has also provided funds for desks, heaters and other equipment for the classrooms in the Mahatta prison.

Mrs Nasser says the programme is unique in the Middle East. She is hoping that the range of courses offered and the number of prisoners included can be expanded in the future, but this depends to a great extent on the availability of adequate funds.



## Practical alternatives to university path

By Joyce Abu Jassar

Special to the Star

STUDENTS in Jordan are now studying for their secondary school certificates. And in many ways that is only the beginning of the story—for the students and their parents.

Some of the luckier students will win university places and train for the professions such as dentistry or medicine. But when they are ready to set up a practice they will find it impossible to obtain auxiliary staff to support their work.

Other students will apply for university but not gain entry and their parents will be unable to afford the expense of a four to seven year university outside Jordan.

It is possible to reconcile the needs of these two

They all offer courses for two to three years and have the advantage that the student can either remain at home or is housed in dormitories but is still in the country.

## Dental Care

But not all fields of training are covered. There is, for example the problem that dentists have. They cannot find any trained help for their clinics. Often the dentist must spend the time from his practice to give basic training to an assistant. And at present there are no local training programmes for dental assistants or for dental hygienists in the country.

What is a dental assistant? Here is how two American schools describe their curricula:

**"DENTAL ASSISTING CERTIFICATE"**—The Dental Assisting programme prepares the individual to become a Certified Dental Assistant. Emphasis is placed on dental sciences and the knowledge and skills needed for chairside, reception, laboratory and X-ray procedures performed in general dentistry offices. There is also limited exposure to the procedures performed in the various specialty offices. Clinical practice is provided for the student at selected dental offices. — Parkland College.

**"Dental Assistant Programme, One Year Certificate"**—The Dental Assistant Programme is designed to train individuals to work as members of a dental team, performing chairside assistance to the dentist, laboratory procedures and office management. — Lincoln Land Community College.

These courses run for one year at the end of which the students take a national certification exam. The approximate cost of the tuition runs from JD 200 to JD 1300 for the year.

**Dental Hygienist**—The Dental Hygiene is a two-year career programme, leading to an associate in applied science degree (AA degree) in dental hygiene. The programme is designed to train the hygienist and educate the person. Graduates are qualified after passing state board examinations and achieving licensure, for private practice in dental offices, hospitals, health agencies, government, and the armed services. — William Rainey Harper College.

**"Dental Hygiene"**—This programme prepares students with specialised skills necessary for employment as a dental hygienist. Emphasis is

placed upon dental prophylaxis, the removal of calculus deposits, debris and stains from the teeth, and the application of fluoride preparation to the children's teeth as preventative treatment, and upon the hygienist's ability as an educator in good health. Their services are sought by dentists in private practice, schools, hospitals, departments of health and industry. — Lake Land College.

These are two year courses and their approximate cost is runs from JD 2000 to JD 2700, for tuition and other educational expenses all together, as compared to the JD 4,300 annually paid (\$600 or more for two years) of a medical student's tuition.

Generally the admission requirements are a high school graduation with a "C" average (which is about 70 per cent) or 12 semester hours of college credit with a college grade average of "C" or better; completion of at least one year of high school courses or one semester of college courses in biology, chemistry and mathematics with a grade of "C" or better. The applicant also has to pass an aptitude test and have an interview with appropriate personnel at the college concerned.

## Correspondence

There are also some correspondence courses and training programmes in these fields for individuals working in dental offices.

Correspondence courses offer another possibility for education and are valuable because they let the student study at his or her own pace while receiving individual guidance from instructors which is sometimes not possible in large universities. The courses are designed to meet a wide range of goals—professional, educational, and personal. The instructors are from universities, colleges, and business and industry, and are committed to teaching by correspondence.

Many universities offer correspondence or "independent study" courses and for example we'll look at what the University of California Extension programme has. Its 250 courses in 52 categories range from Accounting to Zoology at a cost of from JD 30 to JD 65 per subject and the lessons for each number from six to fifteen with one to complete the studies. It is possible to complete many required courses in undergraduate studies in this way.

## Learning science in the family

By Madeleine Jacobs

ONE MOTHER in New Jersey likes it because it "gives my kids a sense of power." Another mother, in Alabama, says it beats "movies, shopping and watching TV." A third, in Texas, calls it "a powerful incentive to get the family together." And a mother in New Mexico says her whole family is "getting a hoot out of doing it."

The object of these rave reviews from mothers throughout the United States is not the latest video game or home computer. It's the Smithsonian Family Learning Project. It's a set of activities for families that uses such ordinary, everyday objects as apples and celery, lawns, houseplants and even woolen socks to teach young and old alike about science and the environment.

The activities are intended, in the words of the project's creator, John H. Falk, "to dispel the notion that education only takes place in school. Learning and education can happen any place, any time—and they can be fun."

The project is a direct outgrowth of Falk's longtime interest in how people learn outside the schoolroom. After receiving his post graduate doctoral degree in 1974, Falk moved to the Smithsonian's Chesapeake Bay Centre for Environmental Studies near Annapolis, Maryland, in the eastern United States. There, as associate director for education, he has been developing learning materials for use in such

nontraditional, or informal, settings as museums, zoos and parks.

The idea of using the family as a learning group and the home as a classroom evolved gradually.

"Most children," Falk says, "spend 25 hours a week or more studying in the classroom, but the majority of their waking hours are spent away from school. It struck me that many parents are interested in the education of their children, but they don't have—or they think they don't have—the wherewithal to get involved directly, especially in science. Our project gives them the tools to entertain, educate and encourage quality interaction between members of the family."

During the past two years, Falk and his colleagues have been developing, testing, evaluating and rewriting almost 50 different activities from families with children between the ages of 6 and 13. A mixture of games and experiments with lots of "hands-on" involvement, the activities have been tried by large and small families of all kinds—including single-parent families—in 36 states.

The projects are designed to be relevant to everyday life, with "something for everyone," Falk says. Thus, there are activities on energy conservation in which family members compare the insulation value of such household objects as woolen socks and breakfast cereal, building a solar greenhouse from a cardboard

box and old cans, making paper from grass clippings, a variety of projects using houseplants and the family pet and even a number of activities in which hungry participants literally eat up the experiment.

In the "Kitchen Botany" project, for example, members of the family are asked to examine a variety of fresh food and, using the brief guidelines provided, to determine which are fruits and which are vegetables.

It sounds easy—and it is—but many people are surprised at how much they learn from carrying out so simple a task. Ellen Turner, an enthusiastic parent of two girls and a boy in Alabama, says, "This project brought back all kinds of things that my husband and I had learned when we were children; for instance, that tomatoes, cucumbers and zucchini are not vegetables, botanically speaking, but fruits."

Another edible project—and a universal favourite among families who tried it—involves creating a pizza map of the United States. Family members learn geography as they delineate rivers, mountains, cities and other points of interest with such favourite toppings as green peppers, onions, pepperoni and cheese.

Falk also sees the Family Learning Project as an imaginative way to bring children and parents together.

## Women look for a voice in jazz

By Amy Duncan



GROWING NUMBERS of female instrumentalists, proud of women's unsung role in jazz history, are working hard to excel and make their mark in the highly competitive world of club, studio and concert jazz work.

Of course, there have always been a few well-known women pianists, and lots of female jazz singers, but performers on other instruments have been rare.

One such rarity is saxophonist Ann Patterson, who leads a highly successful all-woman big band, "Maiden Voyage," on America's West Coast. She loves her work, but admits, "It's taken time because we had to prove ourselves. Men assume a lady musician is not such a good musician unless she proves herself."

"Maiden Voyage" has certainly proven itself, with its clean, tight ensemble work, and some outstanding soloists. "I consciously wanted to make a statement to the musical community here in Los Angeles," says Ann Patterson.

A yearly event in Kansas City—the Kansas City Women's Jazz Festival, founded five years ago by Carol Comer and Dianne Gregg—is responsible for showcasing many of today's female jazz musicians. This one event has done more than any

other to get women jazz musicians together, drawing them from all over the world to attend concerts and take part in informal sessions. Unlike some women's music festivals, it is open to men as well; they express support for the women.

Clearly, the face of jazz has changed—and with it, the small growing role of women in jazz.

Says jazz historian Rosetta Reitz: "In the '40s, when the swing era began, we started to get some women's groups, some good women's groups. And in the '40s we had a lot of them, for the same reason that we had Rosie the Riveter—the men were away (in World War II), and the women were permitted to play! The best all-women group in the '40s was the International Sweethearts of Rhythm."

Today the trend is away from the all-women groups, toward a general blending of men and women in jazz. Women can be found, to some extent, in all styles of jazz, from jazz/rock and fusion to bebop and mainstream to avant-garde. But will the continuing and increasing presence of women in jazz change the quality of the music?

Will it be possible some day to tell the difference between a male and female instrumentalist on a record?

"I hope so. But don't read me wrong—I don't necessarily equate female with soft. I think of (saxophonists) Johnny Hodges, or Ben Webster—they had the sweetest sound, very gentle and soft. But the new sound hasn't evolved yet. I think the sound will be a more androgynous sound than a "male" or "female" sound."

Even though it still seems strange to some people to see a woman playing a saxophone, Reitz contends that such instrumentalists did exist in the past, and without a whole lot of fuss, either. While uncommon in concert or dance bands, women playing brasses and reeds have for decades been part of bands for circuses and carnivals, or have travelled with family bands.

One of these ended up being coach to her brother, who became one of the best known saxophonists in the history of jazz.

"Irma Young played saxophone in the Young Carnival Family Band, and Lester Young learned from his sister."

Trombonist/arranger Melba Liston, who started out in the 1930s, stands out as one of the few women to win recognition on an instrument hardly ever associated with her sex. She became one of the top big band arrangers, doing charts for every band she ever played in, including Dizzie Gillespie's and Quincy Jones's bands. Still active in jazz, she lives in New York and heads a nine-piece group that includes several women. (The Christmas Science Monitor)



Maiden voyage, a highly successful big jazz band—under the leadership of saxophonist Ann Patterson. Jazz critic Lenord Feather has called the band "the most impressive such ensemble ever put together."

# Society's cruel fantasy of the older woman

By Ann Morris

"WHAT'S WRONG with being a grandpa?" goes the dinner party joke. "Sleeping with grandma," is the cruel reply.

The guests chuckle and so does grandma—but does she really find it funny?

No, says New York psychologist Dr. Rita Ransohoff. "But if a joke like that is told grandmothers are expected to laugh; and even when she is 10 or 12 years younger than her husband she has to accept the fact that he is criticizing her legitimately."

Dr. Ransohoff, slim, attractive and middle-aged, is not at all amused about the poor image of women over 40. It is the way men's attitudes towards her changed as she grew older that started her researching the subject for a book.

When a woman is young she is admired for her looks, revered as a mother, flattered and protected by men, says Dr. Ransohoff. But as she approaches the maturity of middle-age, something happens. She finds herself no longer worthy of that "reverence" or admiration.

She is thought of as a battle-axe and either sexually voracious or uninterested. She is also the endless victim of cartoons and jokes which show her as fat, unattractive and domineering.

"It is a fantasy used by men to offset their own anxieties about age. It is one way he deals with it, denying that he is changing although the woman is."

"Since I've been in my fifties I've been more and more aware of the public response I and my friends get. One friend went to a new doctor recently and he asked her: 'Are you still a woman?' We all know what he means but it is highly insulting and obviously a ridiculous way of putting the question."

"Another woman, who is a therapist herself, wrote me a letter. She said she often found difficulty dealing with younger women patients

who would complain about being harassed because they were whistled at in the streets. She found it difficult because she knew it would make her happy if someone were to whistle at her.

"It is a perspective of time. In popular fantasy, which is carried over into real life, older women have lost their attractiveness and their sexuality."

## Image

Older women are endlessly confronted by the battle-axe image, used to portray them in cartoons. It was a cartoon that clinched Dr. Ransohoff's determination to do something about the image of the older woman.

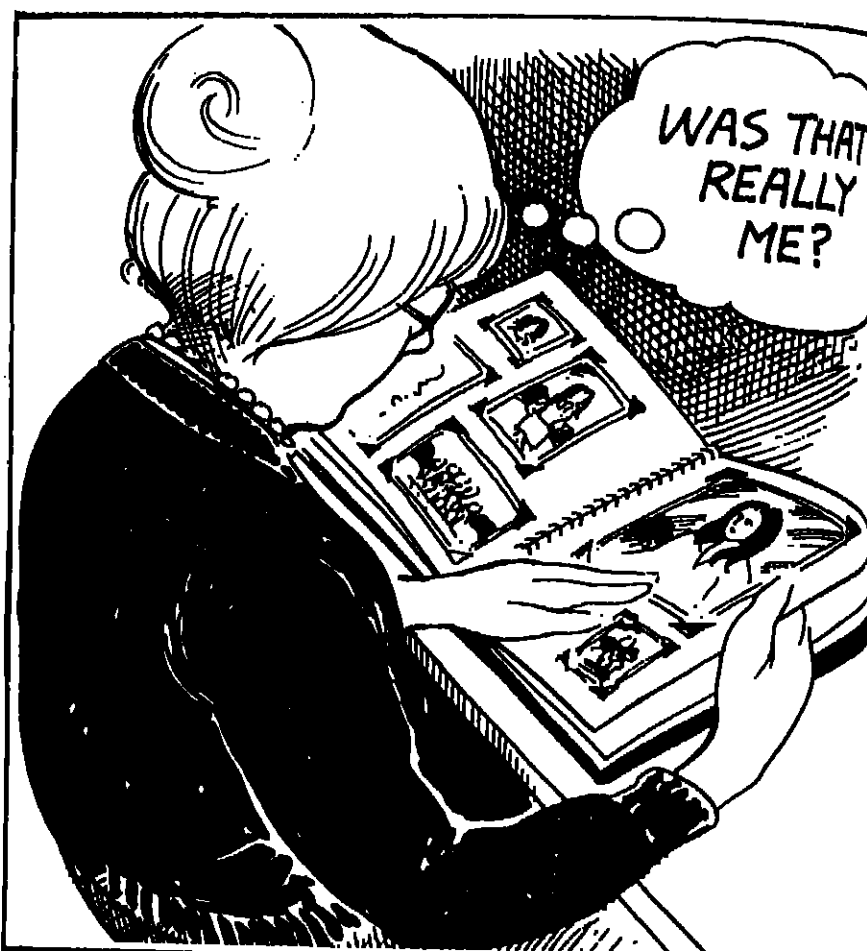
"I was in the Caribbean on holiday and drank in a bar run by Americans. Off it was a washroom for all customers' use, wallpapered with nude torsos of beautiful young women. Among all these beautiful girls was a cartoon of an older woman."

"It was a picture of pioneers going West in a covered wagon. Red Indians had surrounded and attacked the wagon and at the moment they closed in the older woman in the wagon bared her breasts and the Indians ran for the hills."

"It was the juxtaposition of this room full of beautiful, desirable young women and this one old woman, who was such a fearsome, powerful character, that hit me."

Where does the myth come from?

"It is not an overnight happening. Fantasies begin in childhood with the powerful mother and the dependent baby. When things are well a little boy knows that the fairy godmother and the wicked witch are not two different people, but that a woman can be both beautiful and angry. My theory is that there develops a certain ambivalence about women on the part of men."



"When a man is young, has a young wife, the anger is pushed on to the older woman—for instance, you get the mother-in-law jokes. But young wife soon becomes mother and she soon becomes mother-in-law and has the battle-axe or old wife, bull-and-doin, image. She is still the same person but her image to others has completely altered."

But women today live longer and are younger than they have ever been. "A hundred to two hundred years ago women of 40 were

old, worn out and often died early before childbirth. Men's fantasies have just caught up with the new historical realities. They are going to get better men will have to women as they are today."

Dr. Ransohoff smiled. "My own father, by writing about this bringing it out there will be more accommodation to fantasy and reality."

(London Express)

## London fashion takes a shapely line



Left: London's latest coat shape—slim, tapered to finger-tip length from squared shoulders in thick plaid wool.

Right: Newest line in knitwear is a rough textured roll-neck dropped over a slim, short skirt.

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## Doing yourself a fat lot of good

ABOUT THIS time in January dieters be relied upon to come up with some new form of torture to counteract the festive season.

This year, however, I have some pals from America whence all the best diets come. Three books by doctors have recently been published in the United States, doctors you may, indeed should stoke up extra nursery goodies which previously were gasps of horror among the Beverly Hills than the Manson murders.

A proper diet for 1983 might consist of mounds of cornflakes for breakfast topped by half a loaf of toast with heaps of marmalade. Lunch could be three plates of spaghetti with potatoes on the side.

You won't want to miss out on tea, could be a ton of jam sandwiches flavoured by all you can eat in the way of cake. At dinner you might fancy a painful of several hamburger buns—forget the ketchup.

Carbohydrates, not protein, say the doctors should make up 60 per cent of a proper diet. You can have the odd piece of fish, but shouldn't neglect the fruit and veg but especially makes you sluggish. Protein, ten resists heavily on the stomach or goes through you.

The bad news is that after the holiday and merrymaking you should exercise. Last year, having exercised you will feel the need for more carbohydrates.

(London Express)

## All Things Considered

Joyce Abu Jassar



## Signs of spring

THE WEATHER in Jordan runs to an established pattern the local farmers tell us. On about the 22nd or 23rd of December, the winter solstice, the winter officially begins. And this period is called the "ar-baseniya", the forty days that are supposedly the coldest part of the year. We are nearly finished with those and in February—named Shbat, the "khamseeniya", the second part of winter that lasts 50 days starts, giving it that name.

These 50 days are divided into four periods of 12 or 13 days. It seems that if the first day of one of these periods is cold then the other 11 or 12 days will be the same. If the first day is rainy then rain will continue to fall for nearly two weeks.

Just for fun, if you would like to check this out, get out your calendar and mark these days, then make a note of how the weather is on these significant days...and what follows.

Now that it's been cold for several months, I'm looking forward to Spring. In the next few weeks I'll be watching for the first signs. I think that it is the most attractive season here in Jordan, perhaps even more so than in temperate climates because the rains combined with the warmth produce a wonderful and dramatic change in the scenery.

The earth that was bare, grey with dust, and showing its stony nature suddenly turns a lush green, a deep and vibrant hue, all the more noticeable because of the stark contrast with what we are accustomed to seeing. And the wildflowers bloom. But they don't grow tall as the grasses do. They only have a few weeks to grow, bring forth their blossoms and produce seeds for the next year so they don't waste a lot of energy growing stems. They are short, small and close to the ground. If you want to see them, you must go out for a leisurely walk.

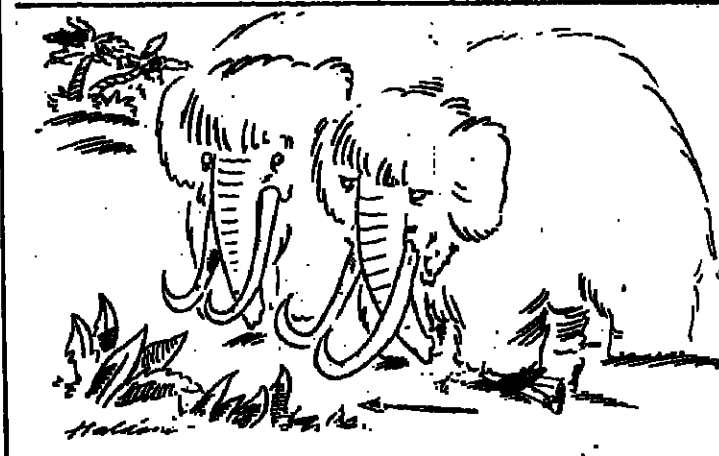
But before they appear, another sure sign that Spring is on the verge of springing, is the arrival or hatching of the "dedan-al-rabia"—the worms of spring. They are little fuzzy caterpillars. They spin a soft silken web over the newly sprouted grass and then the tiny hatchlings spread themselves out on this sun-dock. As they begin to grow bigger they venture off their nursery pad and crawl out to begin a month of eating, grow through the different stages and reappear as butterflies with cream-coloured wings.

Another sure indication is the emergence of the tortoises from their hibernation. They bury themselves under the earth in Autumn and don't come out again until the ground warms enough to signal their waking. Watch for a tortoise plodding along in his mud-encrusted shell.

We're watching for the tortoise that lives in our garden. He has been with us for nine years now. Each spring he is a wee bit larger than the year before. His bright beady eyes blink in mute greetings as we find him sunning himself on the garden walk. He is usually very light-weight when we pick him up and gives us the impression that he is hollow inside, so we get him a nice piece of cucumber, lettuce, the tomato that he likes so well. He accepts eagerly, opening his mouth wide to show his fat pink tongue and taking big bites. Then we know it is Spring.



"Oh dear, it looks as if this bit's been done!"



"Take it from me, brains are overrated."

Hollinsworth

Sandra Betzina's

## Sew with flair

## A high-fashion belt

SEW THROUGH the cord across the width of the strip, then down the length, joining the two layers of fabric and staying as close as possible to the cord (illus. 1); slide the fabric over onto the uncovered half of the cord.

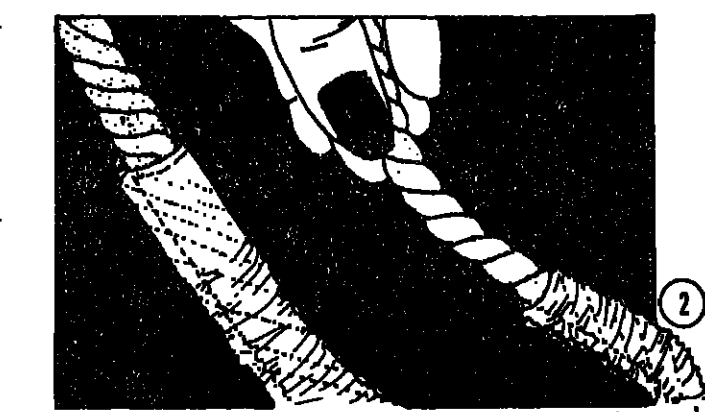
Some of the most handsome belts now in fashion are made of several lengths of wide bias tubing in a variety of fabrics including suede and hand-woven fabrics. Bias tubing filled with heavy cotton cord or foam also makes a great handle for a purse.

Cotton cord for filling comes in a variety of sizes in the notion department. It is not necessary to preshrink the cord. The simplest way to cover cord by machine is to cut a piece of cord twice as long as the amount you desire to be covered.

To determine the cut-fabric width, flatten the cord as much as possible and measure. Double the width of the cord and add 1-1/4 inch for seam allowances. Because such a long strip of bias is required, piecing is necessary. Lengthwise or crosswise strips can be used, but to avoid wrinkles, bias strips are a must.

Take the doubled length of cord filler and divide in half. Mark with a pin. At this halfway point, wrap the fabric around the cord, placing the right side of the fabric against the cord. Using a zipper foot and small reinforcing stitches, sew across the width of the strip through the cord and the fabric.

Continue the stitching line down the lengthwise strip, sewing the two layers of fabric together and sewing as close to the cord as possible (illus. 1).



Use of the zipper foot makes a much tighter fit of the fabric over the cord.

If the fabric is heavy, trim the seam allowances to 1/8 inch.

To turn the strip right side out, pull the end of the cord filler which is just peeking out from the covered end. Pull gently as the fabric begins to slide onto the uncovered half of cord (illus. 2). After the bias strip has been turned right side out, cut off the excess cord. Finish the ends by trimming 1/2 inch off each end of the cord. Turn in raw fabric edges on ends and finish stitching by hand.

## Chef's Corner

## Easy vegetable bakes

### Baked cucumber-stuffed tomatoes

#### Ingredients

- 2 cucumbers
- 2 teaspoons grated onion
- 4 teaspoons lemon juice
- salt and pepper to taste
- 4 teaspoons water
- 4 teaspoons butter
- 4 large tomatoes
- bread crumbs

#### Method

- Peel and dice cucumbers
- Add to remaining ingredients except tomatoes.
- Simmer on stove 5 minutes
- Remove pulp from tomatoes and drain
- Fill tomatoes with cucumber mixture and top with bread crumbs
- Bake until warm and browned, over 350°
- Yields 4 servings

### Eggplant bake

#### Ingredients

- 1 medium eggplant
- 1 medium onion, chopped
- 1/4 cup margarine
- 4 eggs, beaten
- 1 cup tomatoes
- 1 cup grated cheese
- 1 cup bread crumbs

#### Method

- Peel eggplant, cut into small pieces and boil in salted water for about 15 minutes.
- Drain and mash lightly
- Sauté onion in margarine until golden brown
- Add eggplant, beaten eggs and scramble well.
- Then add tomatoes
- Stir in the cheese and bread crumbs
- Pour into a baking dish and cover with additional crumbs
- Bake until brown
- Yields 4 servings



## A chance to hear early gems of Paganini



Fernando Antonelli

Francesco Braghi

• Sunday evening concert at the Jordan Intercontinental Hotel Ballroom will be an unusual treat for Amman music lovers, by all appearances, The Duo Paganini, brought to Amman specially by the Italian Embassy will present a recital of early works for violin and guitar by the legendary Paganini.

The Duo, Fernando Antonelli and Francesco Braghi, represents an interesting novelty among small instrumental groups, both for its unusual combination of instruments and for its repertoire which consists exclusively of original compositions for violin and guitar ranging from Renaissance to contemporary music.

Violinist Fernando Antonelli was born in Como in 1946. He studied at

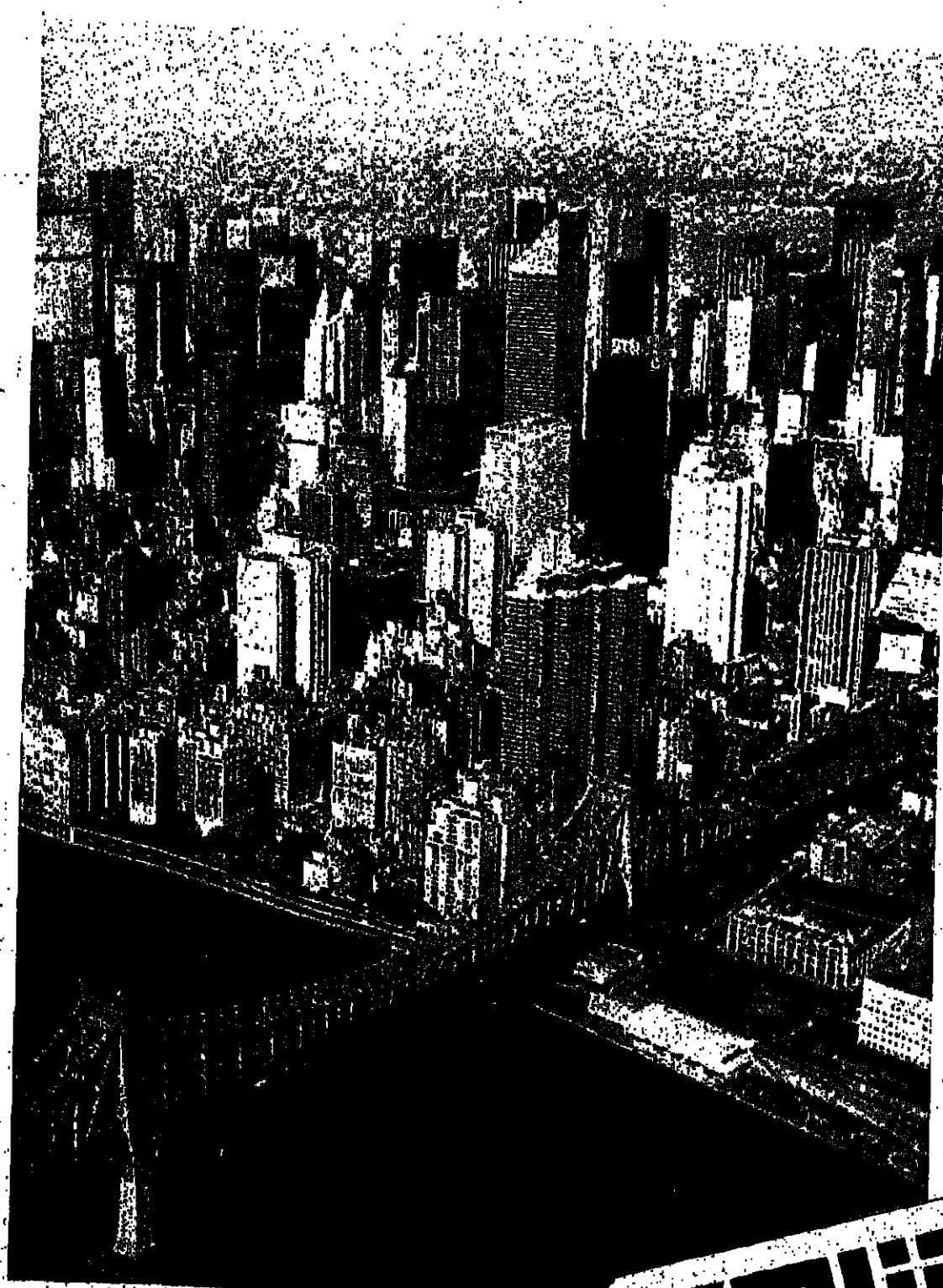
the "G. Verdi" Conservatory in Milan and since then has specialized in violin, chamber music and musicology. Apart from his activity as a concert player he also teaches chamber music at the conservatory in Milan.

Guitarist Francesco Braghi was born in Milan in 1955. He also studied at the "G. Verdi" Conservatory in Milan and later specialized in guitar under Oscar Ghiglia at the Chigiana Academy in Siena.

Both musicians also teach at the Academy of Siena during the summer months.

Sunday's concert starts at 7.30 pm and anyone interested would be well advised to arrive early to be assured of a seat: the response is sure to be enthusiastic.

## NEW YORK NEW YORK



Why settle for less than the most exciting, most interesting, most exuberating city in the world, New York. There is so much for you to see and do: from the Statue of Liberty to the towering skyscrapers of Manhattan, from Chinatown to Greenwich Village, from Times Square to Wall Street, the excitement never ceases, and our services never stop. The minute you board one of our daily Boeing 747s to New York, you will feel that the excitement has just begun. Our flight attendants will shower you with attention and hospitality, with drinks that never end, with lunch, dinner and pre-arrival snacks, a movie, 8 channels of music selected especially for your pleasure, all kinds of reading materials to make your trip even more enjoyable. Come... fly Alia to New York and experience the luxury and comfort of travelling with us. We are forever striving for excellence. Alia, the Progressive Airline of Jordan.

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P.L. Santoshi

• India's Ambassador-designate to Jordan is due to present his credentials today. Mr. P.L. Santoshi arrived in Amman on 26 November 1982, to take up his new assignment. Immediately before coming to Amman he was minister in the Embassy of India in Cairo, from May 1979.

Mr. Santoshi was educated at Lucknow, where he obtained a law degree and diploma in Public Administration. He joined the Indian Foreign Service in June 1963.

He has served in various capacities in the Indian mission at Rabat, Paris, Dacca, Singapore, Bangkok and Cairo. During his tenure at Singapore and Cairo he was in charge of the missions for some time.

Mr. Santoshi is accompanied by his wife and daughter while his son is studying in India.

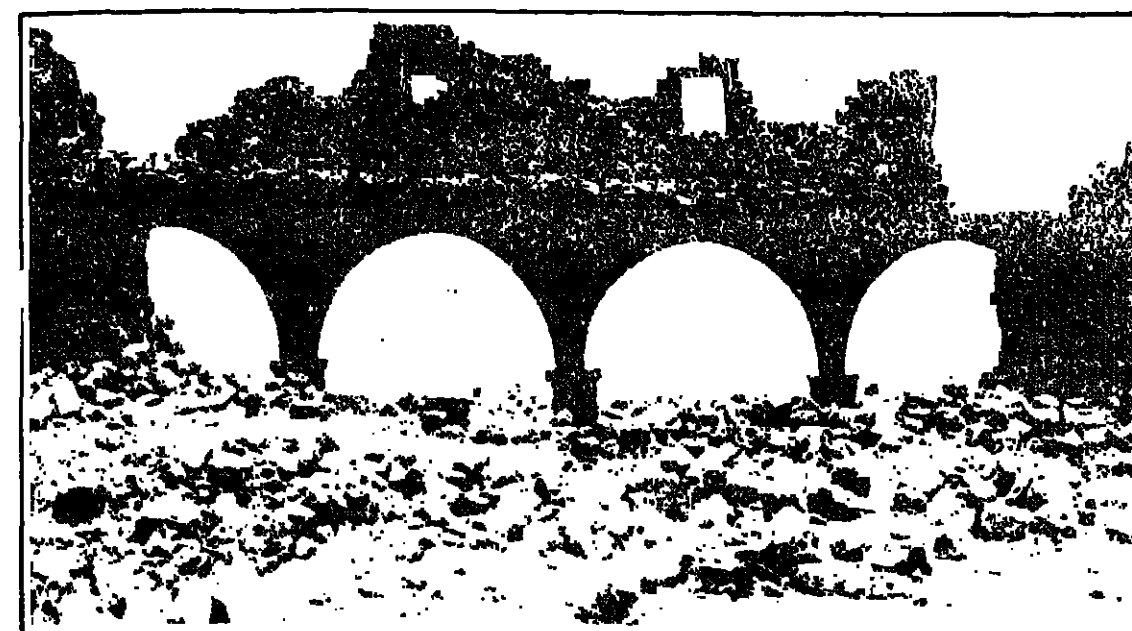
This week, on the occasion of the 33rd anniversary of the Republic Day of India, (Wednesday), he extended greetings to His Majesty King Hussein and the Jordanian people.

"India and Jordan are young as Nation States but in their rich civilization and culture they are among the most ancient in the world," he said. "Peoples of Jordan and India have had strong historical ties. Both India and Jordan are beneficiaries of the Islamic faith and Arabic culture."

Mr. Santoshi noted that "India has consistently supported the just cause of the Arabs including the restoration of inalienable rights of the Palestinian people. Our support for the people of Palestine goes back to the days when we ourselves were fighting for the independence of our country."

"India will continue to stand by her Arab friends in the years that lie ahead. We are watching with hope the current efforts being made by His Majesty the King to bring about lasting peace in the region."

Mr. Santoshi said that upon an invitation extended by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan and Her Royal Highness Princess Sarith, Indian Vice President and Mrs. Mohammad Hidayatullah will visit Jordan towards the end of February, 1983. "The visit, I am confident, will further strengthen the friendly ties existing between the two countries."



Umm Al-Jimal

## A guided tour to Umm Al-Jimal

• Friends of Archaeology members Not only did they have site excavator who went on the Friends trip to the Dr. Bert De Vries as tour guide, they also received copies of his new guide to the city.

The guide, which is published by the Department of Antiquities, is a great boon for the non-expert as it includes a detailed guide for a one to three hour walk around the city. It also gives a history of the site, a guide to its architectural features, site maps and photographs.

Meanwhile, on Friday, group members enjoyed an "informative and enlightening guided tour from Dr. De Vries. Amongst those present were the wife of United States Ambassador Marina Vries, Dr. Gerald Mattingly and David and Linda McCreery of ACOR. Dr. Victor Ayoub who is a Fulbright Professor at Yarmouk University, Mr. and Mrs. Harwood and their daughter Julie, Mr. and Mrs. Hopper and Mr. and Mrs. F. Habib.

On Friday 28 January the members are planning another trip, this time to the Decapolis city of Pella. And they assure us that even if the weather is stormy in Amman we can look forward to a fine sunny day down in the valley.

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Dr. Muhammad Adoub Al-Zaben

• Minister of Communications Dr. Muhammad Adoub Al-Zaben is visiting Finland for one week as a guest of the Finnish government.

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• Director of the Audit Bureau Dr. Hashem Al-Dabbas has left for Tunisia to attend meetings of the directors of financial control department in Arab countries. The meetings will run from 24 to 29 January.

• Under-Secretary of Agriculture Dr. Salim Al-Lawzi is spending nine days in Hungary at the invitation of the Arab Agricultural Development Organization. He will be joining with other Arab agricultural experts to visit various Hungarian agricultural projects.

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## Beware the space invaders

THE INVADERS are coming. Not only are they coming... a lot of them are already here. The space invaders are all around us seemingly controlled by some demonic, alien force.

They look just like regular people, and in general they act just like them too. But I can tell which ones they are... I know them, I can tell, because I've seen. The space invaders have done their work on me.

Anything less than 50 centimetres away from me is my space. That is my own personal territory, and other people violate it at their own risk.

That is not to say that, like Great Britain with Capt. Kirk I will challenge the legitimacy of and commandeer anything less than half a metre from me; it's just a general guideline for polite conversation. In normal circumstances, there should be no need for my interlocutors to come any closer.

That, of course, precludes a pressing need for confidentiality, which would require me to lean my head close to someone else and mutter in a delicious undertone. They might also have to shout into my ear if we were talking in the middle of a hurricane or an atomic attack.

I'm just talking about those persistent individuals who, despite the plainest hints and even explicit pleas, feel they cannot get anything across without talking right into your ear or coming so close you can smell the coins in their pocket. They start talking; you reply. They take a step forward; you hold your ground nervously. They take another step, make another remark. You retreat a step, hoping to catch sight of their ear around the bulge of their cheek.

Finally establishing a civilised talking distance, you take up the conversation again. But they seem deaf, and press forward.

You have hardly finished your sentence before they are again examining the little hairs on your neck. Finally you give in, close your eyes and nod until the matter runs its course.

This is all the more nerve-racking because the people who tend to do this also generally have the loudest conversational voices. And the ones who behave in the opposite manner—who sit away on the other side of a huge empty room to talk to you—mutter unintelligibly under their breath.

No, I am not a weirdo. My notion of personal space and discreet conversational distance is shared by many who I consider wiser than myself. They may not be as intent as I am in expressing it, but they tend to agree when I ask them.

Another category of Space Invaders is that of the people who, for some reason perhaps relating to inner anxiety, feel they must touch you when they talk. I used to have a friend who would slap me on the elbow with each remark or question, even if we had already started a conversation and my attention was guaranteed.

This is most unnerving. Anyone who does it should either banish himself to the other side of the table or hold onto the other person's arm not very pleasantly. I must admit, but better than this constant barging, shoving and nudging. In the case of my friend, I found after a few weeks that all my shirts and jackets needed mending where they had been worn out by his importunity.

Space Invaders III. These are the worst of the lot, and I have had to deal with them all my life. They are the ones who feel they must touch your face. I am quite willing to accept that as a child I may have been irresistibly cute (though the odds are against it), but this could have done nothing to assuage the misery of my cheeks as they were subjected to an unending stream of aunts, uncles, neighbours, friends and total strangers—all with the urge to pinch.

An affectionate caress on the cheek is quite a different matter, I admit; and depending on who it comes from, I might be able to live with it. But my face objects to being used as open territory for painful expressions of admiration.

It's amazing the number of people who agree with me vigorously on this subject. And it's amazing how many of them are ready, unasked, to demonstrate on my person the forms of behaviour to which we both object so strongly. That I think, is carrying enthusiasm too far.

• The USAID team in Amman has received quite a boost with the arrival of several health experts in town. Mr. Joseph M. Baldi is here as advisor to the Ministry of Health in health education. Mr. Baldi's wife Pat and daughter Susan will be joining him in Hungary at the invitation of the Arab Agricultural Development Organization. He will be joining with other Arab agricultural experts to visit various Hungarian agricultural projects.

Dr. Jack Mallett of the University of

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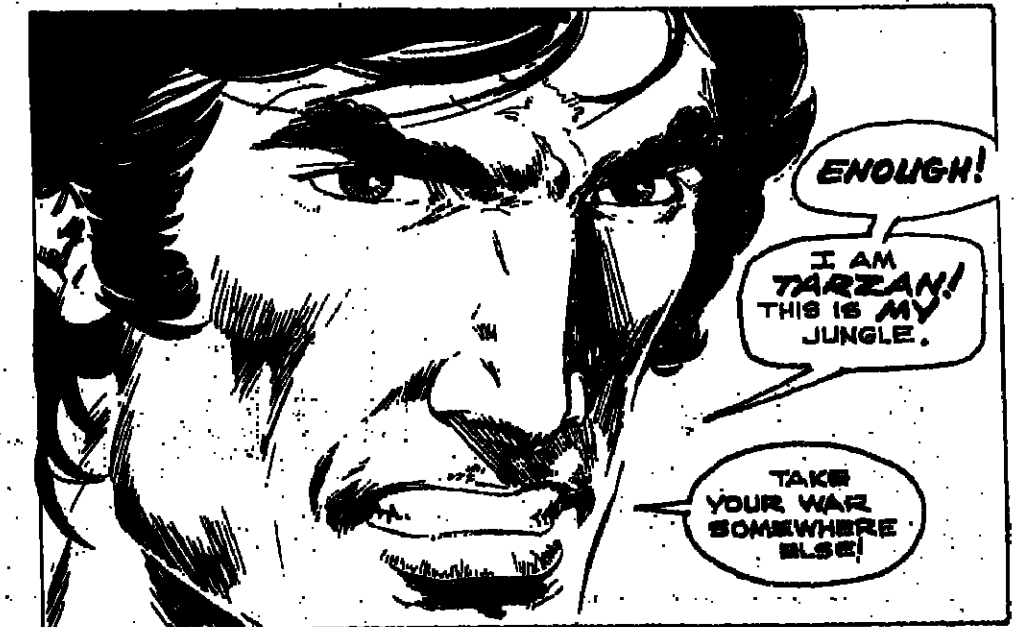
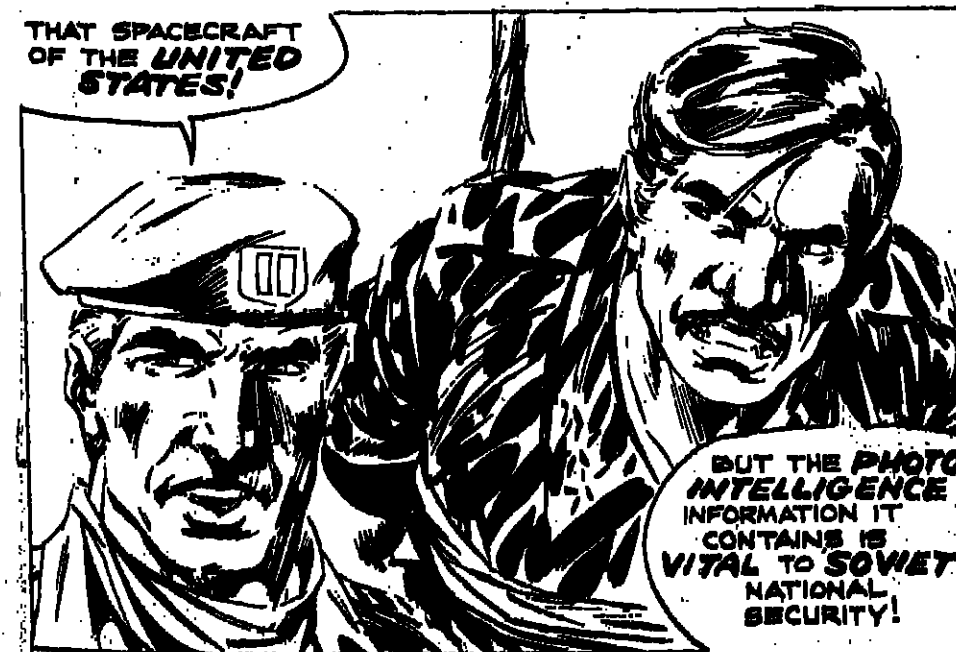
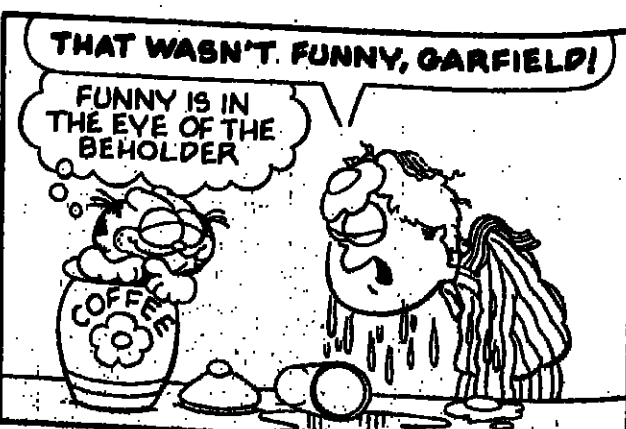
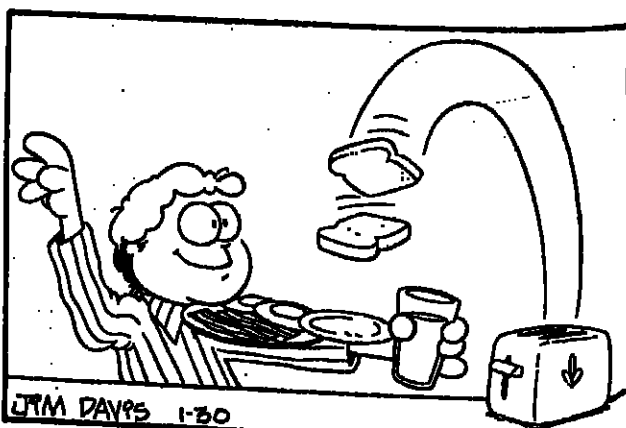
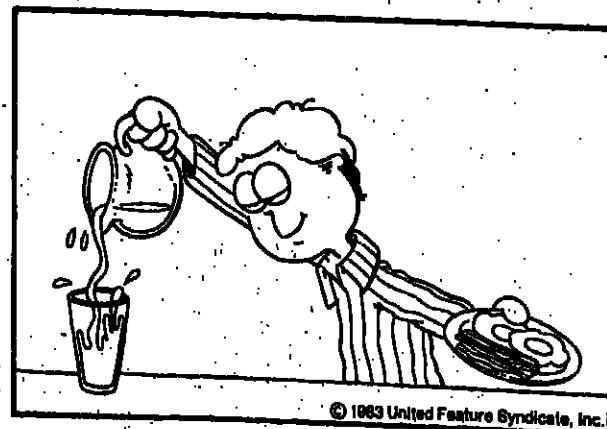
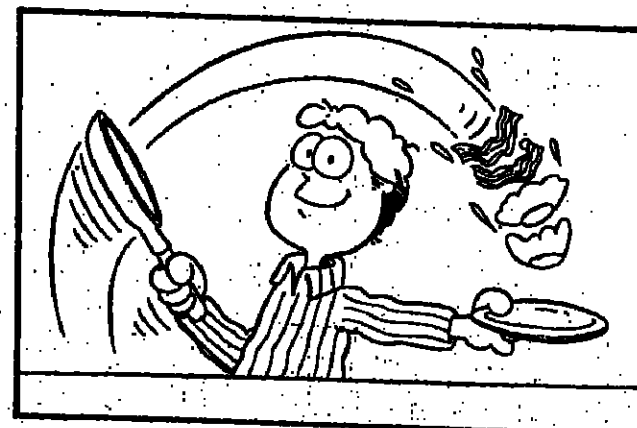
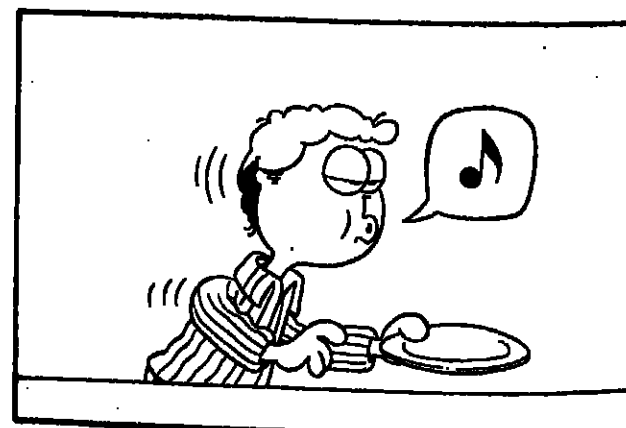
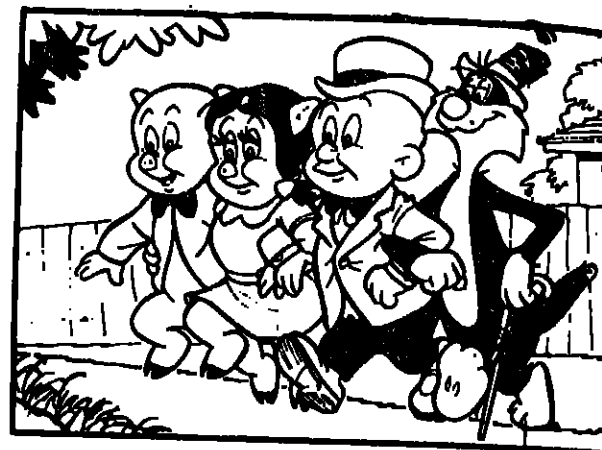
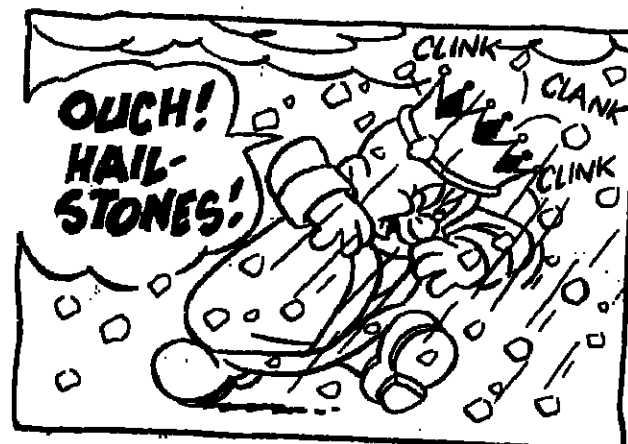
## Embassy of the United States of America

### Notice to all American citizens living in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan.

American citizens residing in Jordan are requested to visit the American Embassy Consular Section in order to register if they have not done so in the past. Previously registered citizens should telephone or contact the American Consulate to inform it of their continued presence in the country and any change in telephone, address or employment.

The American Embassy is located in Jabal Amman between second and third circles, directly across from the Jordan Intercontinental Hotel. The phone number is 44371, P.O. Box 354.

The Consular Section is open to the public 8:00 am to 3:00 pm Sunday thru Thursday.







# Intimate Starcasts

By Henry Arnold

Week commencing 27 January, 1983

## CAPRICORN--December 21st to January 19th

Most things should go surprisingly well during this coming week, and minor problems should sort themselves out quite well. The weekend should leave you feeling a lot easier in the mind than you have been for some time past. A change in business could be an opportunity which you have been waiting for. The indications are that you could also have a surprise visitor who is not all that welcome.

## AQUARIUS--January 20th to February 18th

A week which should hold many opportunities for enjoyment, but rather strangely, this will mostly be during the day time, and the evenings appear to be rather quiet. A domestic problem which has been the subject for much family discussion will be solved in an easy and straightforward manner. The part you play in this will stand you in good stead for any similar difficulties.

## PISCES--February 19th to March 20th

Someone near to you could become very jealous. This person will need diplomatic handling later on in the week, but all should go well, and you should have an exciting and happy weekend. The indications are that you would be very well advised not to listen to idle chatter about a friend during this week. It would be much better for you to check up on the facts yourself, for although true, it is likely to be exaggerated.

## ARIES--March 21st to April 20th

An old friend will be going off on a journey some time during the next seven days, and so you may find yourself feeling just a little bit sad. Cheer up, for you will soon see them again. Now is the time to launch a rather ambitious plan which you have in mind. It will turn out to be very successful, and by so doing, you should please a member of the opposite sex. At work, you should make excellent progress.

## TAURUS--April 21st to May 20th

The indications are that there is quite a lot of hard work ahead of you during this coming week, yet at the same time, you should be able to make use of your artistic abilities with surprising results. A friend whom you have not known for a very long time may ask to borrow some money during this coming week, it would be wise to refuse, but be very tactful about this. Things should become much easier and more comfortable now for you.

## GEMINI--May 21st to June 20th

Someone who is not really your friend could try to probe you to find out how you are doing some time during this coming week. You would be very well advised to tell them absolutely nothing and string them along. Where your social life is concerned, an outing which you have been looking forward to for some time past will have to be cancelled, and you could find yourself feeling just a little disappointed.

## CANCER--June 21st to July 21st

At work, an opportunity should present itself to you this week in which you will have extra responsibility. Do not be modest about this, and accept it. Try just giving that little extra attention to your loved one this week, and this way, you will get their co-operation much more easily in everything you do. A new understanding, plus an extremely close link-up with a member of the opposite sex should give you great peace of mind.

## LEO--July 22nd to August 21st

There should be more scope for your ideas around you during this coming week, for the indications are that here is the start of a rapidly moving period for you. You could meet a member of the opposite sex, and this could be the start of a new romantic relationship, and you will be feeling much more happier than for some time past. A last minute invitation will cause you lots of rush, but this will be very successful.

## VIRGO--August 22nd to September 21st

The week in general seems full of routine odds and ends, but the weekend should live up enormously, and a new friendship of a lasting nature seems to be highly likely. You will find that your intuition will be your greatest asset during this coming week when you are faced with a choice between two completely different things. Do not allow yourself to be influenced by other people's opinions which would only be wrong for you.

## LIBRA--September 22nd to October 22nd

This is not the time to assert your authority in the home, for in doing so, you will get into bad odour with a very strong-minded and stubborn person. You could find yourself making plans for a journey of a rather unexpected nature. This will take up a good deal of your spare time during the early part of this week, but there should be a very pleasant financial surprise in store for you by week's end.

## SCORPIO--October 23rd to November 21st

If you are planning a future tie-up of any kind, this would be an extremely good week to go ahead with definite arrangements. This will work out very well, and should be very advantageous. Towards the end of the week, you could receive an unexpected gain which could well surprise you, and you will find yourself very popular and gay. Celebrations with someone of the opposite sex are quite likely after mid-week.

## SAGITTARIUS--November 22nd to December 20th

During this coming week, someone who is much more knowledgeable than yourself could surprise you by taking you into their confidence. This will ultimately be of great benefit to you, and you will progress as a result in a sphere hitherto unthought of. You must try to be a good listener during this coming week, for an old friend with problems on their mind will seek your advice and assistance.

## Thursday 27 January

Birthday Greetings to You. Where your career is concerned, this coming year, your prospects are very good indeed. Suddenly, you will forge ahead and although your income will remain unaltered for a while, there are signs of a great financial increase ahead.

Your personal life will be a little upsetting for the next two months, but romance is in the air, and by April period, you will have made a lasting association, that for the eligible ones could lead to marriage.

A little nervous strain may be evident for the next couple of months, but apart from that, you should feel and look exceedingly fit during the coming year. The health of an elderly relative could give you just a little worry, but you should soon realise that this is nothing serious.

An interfering relative will need watching slightly.

## Friday 28 January

Birthday Greetings to You. Don't let petty jealousy stand in the way of an exciting romance which is coming your way very soon. There may be wedding bells for those of you who are eligible, and in any event, there will be much social activity for all for the next two months.

Financially, things look up from the end of next month, and altogether, the coming year will give you a real uplift both in your private and working life.

A chance to travel may well be offered to you towards the end of April. You should not be too hasty in coming to a decision over this.

Your work will improve steadily this coming year, and although heavy demands will be made upon your time and energies, it will be well worth working as hard as possible, for success is very clearly indicated for you before your next anniversary.

## Saturday 29 January

Birthday Greetings to You. Family ties may be quite strong during the next two months, and one rather pleasant incident could have a great bearing on your life. You may have to rely on an old friend to help you sort out a problem which could crop up, but this should present no real difficulties.

Try not to let jealousy enter into your personal life around April, for this could upset someone who is very near and dear to you.

Financial position may have been causing you some anxiety during the last few months, but there is every indication that in the very near future, a little windfall could come your way, thus making things much easier for you.

## Birthday Information Charts

## Monday 31 January

Birthday Greetings to You. There is an indication of a very exciting romance for the eligible ones amongst you towards the end of May, and altogether, the coming year will be one of social gaiety.

Be careful of some advice that will be given to you by a friend at the end of April. Better to use your own judgment.

You could find yourself doing quite a bit more travelling during this coming year than in previous years.

Although your health has been troubling you lately, you need not worry any more about it, for apart from a little nervous strain, you should be feeling in excellent health by the end of next month.

An unexpected offer to travel will be given to you by someone connected with your career.

## Sunday 30 January

Birthday Greetings to You. Financially, there is a big surprise awaiting you towards the end of next month. Don't let this influence you to lend money to people you know are unreliable.

Some time during March, you could start on a new project, so do not hesitate to accept advice and help from people more experienced than yourself.

This coming year holds many changes for you, both in your emotional life and also at work. You should try to be more understanding with someone who is very dear to you, and who loves you very much, and then you will be happier and calmer to do your work satisfactorily.

A chance to travel may well be offered to you towards the end of April. You should not be too hasty in coming to a decision over this.

## Tuesday 1 February

Birthday Greetings to You. If your health has been causing you some worry just lately, this will improve considerably during the coming year. You will receive news of an old friend whom you have not seen for a long time.

Romance is in the air from the end of next month. New friends will be made, and for the younger ones amongst you, there are signs of wedding bells before your next anniversary comes around.

By your next anniversary, you will receive an unexpected piece of good news that will make you financially much more secure.

If you should receive an offer to start a new project with someone in a higher position than yourself in your job, there is an indication that this could bring you great success.

## Wednesday 2 February

Birthday Greetings to You. Your health which has been troubling you a little lately, will improve considerably within the next two months, but don't overexert yourself, and take care not to let your temperament guide your mind too much.

Where your financial position is concerned, this will be a very good year indeed. By your next anniversary, you will be feeling much more secure than you have done of late.

With your passionate and generous nature, you are liable to do something very impulsive which might lead to a little heartbreak for you later on. However, if you steer an even course in your personal life, this coming year should bring you everlasting happiness through a new acquaintance.

# sport

## The development of Jordan's football

Dr. Jamal A. Shurdum

Special to the Star

FOOTBALL, or soccer, has been a popular game around the globe for years. But it was not until recently that Third World countries began to take up the game seriously. Today it is rare to find a boy or a man who does not know the rules or the style of the game. Many people are keen to learn how to play the "European style" of football.

In Jordan, just like any other country, the game had to go through infancy and various stages of development. Many Jordanians will say, as they watch a football match either at the stadium or on their television sets, that the game finally arrived in Jordan fully matured. This statement is both true and false. It is true that football has been in Jordan for some time. But it was not a popular game until the sixties. Few teams made up the League, like Al-Faisaly, Al-Jazira, Al-Ahli, Al-Urdun and Al-Sinhab. Some teams used to participate from Palestine, before Israel's establishment, such as Ahli-Yaffa. Even fewer football fields existed then. Some of the famous ones were Al-Nahata and the Islamic College of Amman playgrounds.

What the game has gained recently is on the professional level, affecting the standard of playing. The game still does not enjoy the high quality of professionalism that merits enthusiastic public support of the game. In time this gap should disappear.

Growth of the sport itself has been phenomenal. The few teams that started football in Jordan have increased tremendously in the last few years.

Today hundreds of teams make up the Jordanian Football association membership. This growth is echoed not only in Amman, but throughout the Kingdom. In secluded areas, where five years ago attention to soccer was meagre, more teams are being formed and popular participation is up.

It is also important to note the effect of local neighbourhood team (Al-Harm) on the development of national players in Jordan. In the old days it was even difficult in the neighbourhoods to form a team and find a ball to play with.

The speed by which football has developed in Jordan promises a bright future for players, local teams and national teams which participate in Arab and international events around the world. What we see now is only the tip of the iceberg. What the future will yield will be for the advantage of Jordan's young people.



Jihad Saqr, Jordan's national cycling champion, sits on top of a car after he was rescued last Friday. Saqr withdrew from the race after being in lead for the first half.

## Aqaba race yields mixed results

By a Star Staff Writer

AQABA--Last week's Aqaba cycling race was full of unexpected events, mostly frustrating to the participants.

Only nine cyclists out of 63 managed to reach the finishing line. The 100-kilometre race was the third national cycling race to be held in Jordan. The race, open for those under 18, was held under the patronage of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, who was represented by the governor of Ma'an.

The hopes of many new participants in the race were buried in the desert sands of the south. Cyclists started from Aqaba, took the Ghour Sali highway and returned to Aqaba for the finishing line. Heat and the roughness of the roads complicated things from the beginning, where many participants had to quit the race because of flat tires.

Four out of five members of the leading Jordanian team, the Late Tarif Al-Kayyat team, withdrew in the first half of the race. Few participants managed to reach Rahma village, 50 km north of Aqaba, and turn back to the sea port using the strong winds, which

impeded their speed in the first half.

Jihad Saqr, Jordan's national champion, who was in the lead had to return to Aqaba not on his bicycle, but in a rescue car after he wandered off into the desert with a flat tire.

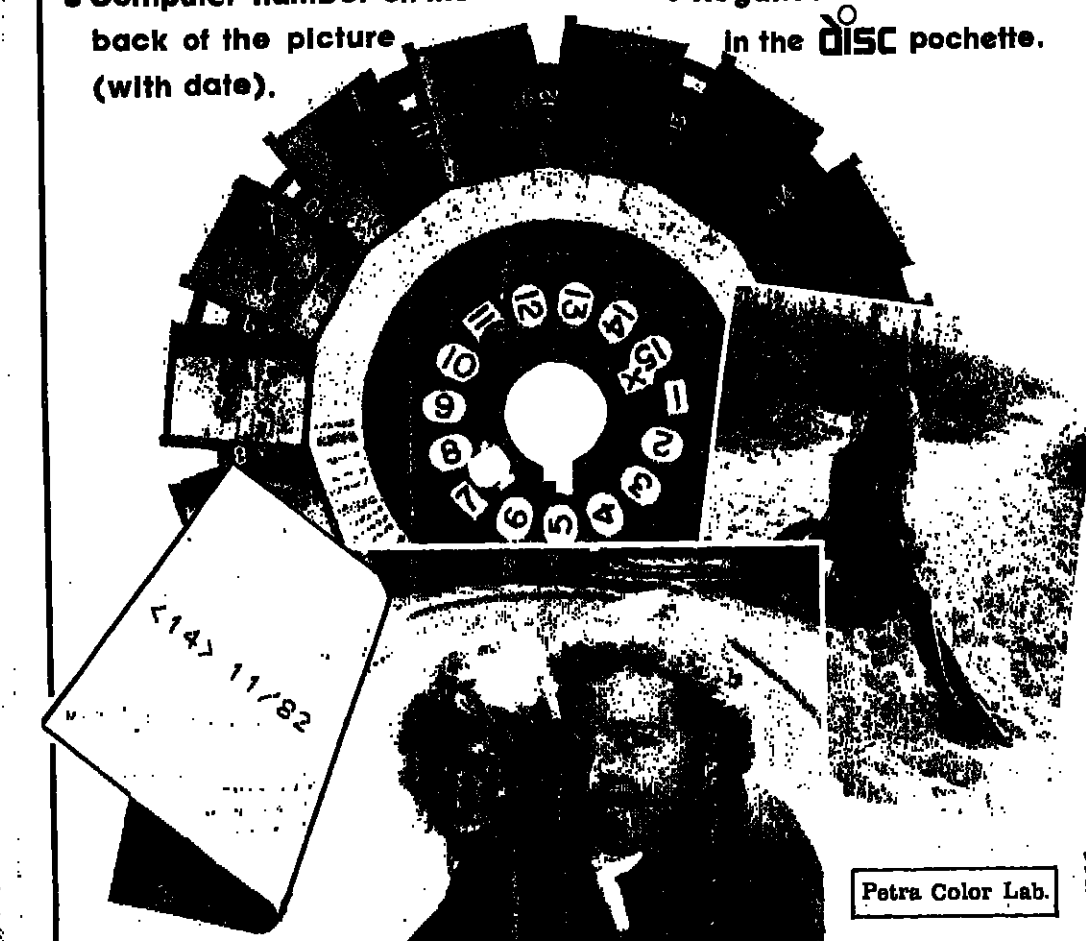
Samir Hushim, who was behind Saqr managed to make a sprint in the last 45 km and arrive first at the finishing line. He was 12 minutes ahead of the second place winner, Ziyad Al-Dmour. Mut'ib Al-Fa'oury finished third.

Race results were used to select the rest of national team, which will fly to Morocco today for a two-week training camp.

Sources at the Jordan Cycling Federation (JCF) said that three cycling races will take place in the first half of 1983. The first will be Jordan Valley 85 km race. The second, the three stage cycling race from Amman to Aqaba, will take place in July. The race will cover a distance of 340 kilometres. The third event will be Jordan's participation in the Arabian Youth Championship which will take place in March in the United Arab Emirates.

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## JTV Week end World documentary

The International banks are threatened with a collapse similar to that the thirties. About \$500 billion have been borrowed by Third World countries and most of them are unable to repay. What is to be done? In this film we will see an attempt to give the right to this big problem.

Monday 9, 10

## JTV

## THE COMPUTER PROGRAMME 10 x 25 minutes

This major new series on computer literacy examines what computers do for mankind, how they work, who is using them now, and why. What will be the impact of computers on people's daily lives in the very near future.

Monday 9:10